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Kuwait expresses anger

## Arabs condemn Israeli expulsions

King Hassan is ill

RABAT, (Reuter): King Hassan of Morocco is suffering from a high fever and influenza and his physicians have recommended that he take a complete rest for at least 24 hours, the palace said today.

Bheel found dead

NEW DELHI, (Reuter): A reformed Indian bandit, Karna Ram Bheel, whose seven-foot-10-inch (238 cm) long moustache earned him a place in the Guinness Book of World Records has been found beheaded near his home, news agency reports said.

400 detained

ASSUIT, (Reuter): Police said yesterday they had arrested 400 escaped convicts and raided three illegal arms factories in a swoop on mountains south of Cairo, news agency reports said.

Jail for spying

ISLAMABAD, (Reuter): A French journalist Alain Guillot, who entered Afghanistan without permission, was sentenced yesterday to 10 years in jail for spying, the official Kabul Radio said.

Flight recorder

IZMIR, (Reuter): Turkish investigators combed the wreckage of a West German aircraft in which 16 people died found a flight recorder yesterday which could confirm their theory that sabotage was not to blame.

Planes escorted

KARACHI, (Reuter): The Pakistani Air Force provides escorts to protect civilian airliners flying close to the Afghan border, Pakistani civil aviation sources said yesterday.

Arafat in Rabat

RABAT, (Reuter): PLO leader Yasser Arafat arrived in Morocco unexpectedly yesterday to take part in a meeting of Islamic ministers to discuss violence in the Israeli occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

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آن کاروں سختات میں

وچکرہ بے عقول میں ایک

کوئی کاروں کو کوئی کاروں

کوئی کاروں کی میں ایک

کوئی ک

## INTERNATIONAL

## Sikhs kill Punjab Congress leader

AMRITSAR, Jan 4. (AP): A senior member of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party was among five people shot and killed by Sikh militants in northern Punjab state, police said today.

Police said responsibility for the killing of Jagat Ram, vice president of the Punjab unit of the Congress Party, was claimed by the Khalistani Liberation Force, one of more than a dozen Sikh militant groups active in the state.

Ram was shot by three militants this morning in Phagwara, 90 kilometers (56 miles) southeast of Amritsar, said A. Siddiqui, a senior police officer.

Ram's nephew, Vijay Chadha, who was with him, was also killed in the attack, Siddiqui said.

Ram, a Sikh who has a Hindu-sounding name, was a minister in the state government until 1983.

Siddiqui said two Sikhs were taken into custody from near the spot of the killing. He said they were being questioned and had not been charged.

A police official in Chandigarh, the state capital, said the killing was claimed by the Khalistani Liberation Force. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the claim was made in a telephone call to a newspaper in Jalandhar town, also in Punjab.

### Don't return home, calls opposition

## Ershad arrives in Cairo

CAIRO, Jan 4. (UPI): President Hossni Mubarak of Egypt today on a four-day official visit.

President Hosni Mubarak greeted Ershad on the lawn of the Kubbeh presidential palace while brass bands played their national anthems.

Ershad's semi-official Middle East News Agency said the visit was aimed at "promoting the continuous cooperation between Egypt and Bangladesh in the various fields."

Ershad left Bangladesh on the eve of a planned 15-day round of opposition protests seeking his ouster. Opposition leaders described his visit to the Middle East as an attempt to muster foreign support against the campaign.

Ershad and Mubarak will sign

### First account of Manila assassination

## Soldier shot Ninoy Aquino: witness

MANILA, Dec 4. (AP): A Philippine Airlines employee testified today that he saw a soldier shoot President Corazon Aquino's husband, the first time a witness has claimed to have had a full view of the assassination.

Jessie Barcelona, 30, said he was driving a towing tractor on the tarmac of Manila airport on Aug 21, 1983, when he saw former Senator Benigno Ninoy Aquino, descending the ramp of a China Air Lines jet with three uniformed escorts.

"I saw the soldier at the back of the man in white point the gun at the nape," Barcelona said. "He fired the gun and he (Aquino) fell forward."

Barcelona, who was brought to the courtroom with seven security guards, did not point out the assailant during his testimony, which was to continue Tuesday.

### Version

Prosecutor Raul Gonzalez later told reporters that Barcelona's account indicated the killer was one of the 40 defendants.

Defense attorney Rodolfo Jimenez, who will cross-examine Barcelona on Tuesday, downplayed the testimony — the most

striking so far in the eight-month old trial.

"If you relate to other witnesses presented by the prosecution, this is another version," Jimenez told reporters. "I think it's the fourth version I've heard."

Jimenez said Aquino would have fallen dead on the ramp if Barcelona's account was accurate. He said photographs showed the former Senator lying dead several paces away from the tarmac.

The assassination of Aquino, the country's best known opposition figure, touched off a wave of public indignation that helped topple President Ferdinand Marcos in 1986 and propelled Marcos to the presidency.

Benigno Aquino was returning to the Philippines after three years of self-imposed exile in the United States to challenge Marcos for the country's leadership.

### New trial

A court in 1985 acquitted the defendants in the killing and held up the findings of a Marcos-appointed commission that Aquino was murdered by a communist agent, Rolando Galman.

Galman, a petty criminal with links to the military, was shot to

death on the tarmac moments after Aquino was slain. After Mrs Aquino took office, the Supreme Court overturned the acquittals and ordered a new trial, which began April 28.

After Benigno Aquino fell, Barcelona said he heard another gunshot, possibly the one that killed Galman. The defense claims Galman managed to get near the plane because he was dressed in a blue airline ground staff uniform.

"I saw one man wearing the uniform of a PAL employee fall," Barcelona said. "He was on the outside of the stairway. As I was moving away from the place, I still heard a series of shots. I went to the parking area and then ran into our office and hid."

Barcelona said he had seen Galman chatting earlier that day with Col. Rolando Abadilla, the former Manila intelligence chief. Abadilla is not charged in the case but has been held since July for alleged involvement in coup attempts against Mrs Aquino.

During the 1985 trial, the court rejected testimony by some witnesses and evidence on audio and video tapes from foreign journalists that indicated a soldier may have been Aquino's assassin.



An Indian officer checks the bag of a woman going past the headquarters of Indian troops in eastern Batticaloa district. (Reuter wirephoto)

### 35 killed in minority clashes

## Troops patrol Sri Lanka town

COLOMBO, Jan 4. (Reuter): Indian troops and Sri Lankan police will jointly patrol the eastern town of Kattankudi where about 35 people died in minority Tamil-Muslim clashes last week, officials said today.

The decision was made at a meeting chaired by President Junius Jayewardene after Muslim Affairs Minister Haniffa Mohamed visited the area on Saturday.

The clashes near Batticaloa on Wednesday and Thursday were sparked by the killing of a Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam guerrilla. Rebels burned houses, rice mills and vehicles, causing damage estimated at \$165,000.

About 100 people were injured

in the coastal town of 50,000 Muslims and 15,000 others sought refuge in nearby mosques.

The state-run Daily News said that three rebel boats, ignoring orders to stop, were sunk and their crew killed on Saturday off the northern peninsula.

It reported that the boats were carrying arms and 21 men were believed to have been aboard. Indian officials were unable to confirm the incident.

Six Indian soldiers were wounded when their vehicle was hit by a landmine planted by Tamil guerrillas today in northern Sri Lanka, military officials said.

The officials said the vehicle was badly damaged in the blast at Kokkavil.

## Three Iranians get asylum in Spain

MADRID, Jan 4. (AP): Spanish authorities have granted asylum to three Iranians, one of them a 14-year-old boy, after holding the refugees at Madrid's Barajas airport for a week, police said today.

Police said 22-year-old Roya Fajari was recovering in a Madrid hospital from a hunger strike she began Wednesday to protest an earlier government decision to deny the three asylum.

Fajari, 14-year-old Reza Siremi and a former Iranian Army member whom police did not identify had been held in the airport's transit area since they arrived Dec. 28 from Istanbul, Turkey, without proper documentation, police said.

A Madrid newspaper reported Fajari had told a local lawyer she would be killed if she returned to Iran and had claimed her mother had been killed there for political reasons.

On Dec. 21, Spanish authorities granted asylum to five Iranians after a week-long odyssey during which they had been

occupants. There would have been four to five rebels in each boat," the official said.

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The official Tass news agency described Shevardnadze's previously unannounced trip as working visit. It gave no details of his discussion with Najibullah.

The Soviet Union, which intervened militarily in Afghanistan in Dec. 1979, has been seeking to extricate itself from the country's lengthy civil war.

**Supplies**

President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev discussed Afghanistan during their Washington summit last month, but US officials said little progress was made.

Shevardnadze's arrival in Kabul coincided with the start of talks in neighbouring Pakistan of State Michael Armacost and Foreign Ministry officials on prospects for ending the nine-year-old Afghan war. Armacost also met with President Zia-ul-Haq.

Pakistani officials said they were hoping to hear Washington's assessment of Soviet intentions following the summit.

The analysts said Shevardnadze was also likely to discuss the outcome of an offensive by thousands of Afghan government and Soviet troops to break a three-month siege of the eastern garrison town of Khost by Muslim rebels.

Last week the Afghan government said it had broken the siege and food convoys were getting through to Khost along the 125 km (80 miles) road from the provincial capital Gardez.

The rebels said yesterday their forces were still blocking the road, but an eyewitness reported seeing a 40-vehicle convoy advancing towards Khost the previous day.

**Chin, 77, dies**

BANGKOK, Jan 4. (AP): Chin Sophonpanich, a one-time shop apprentice who founded south-east Asia's largest bank and became one of the region's richest men, has died, local newspapers reported. Chin was 77.

Chin died at Bangkok's Bumrungtip Hospital last night of heart failure brought on by diabetes, the newspapers said.

## Arabs condemn Israeli expulsions

(Continued from Page 1)

uncalled-for the Israeli actions are."

In Baghdad, a PLO spokesman said today that the Central Council of the PLO will meet in Baghdad on Thursday to discuss setting up a government-in-exile. He said the 95-member group would consider a report from its legal committee on legislative and political aspects.

PLO chief Yasser Arafat has suggested that he expects such a government to be formed soon, the Washington Post reported today.

Syria called today for world condemnation of what it termed Israeli terrorism after Israel said it would expel nine ringleaders of Palestinian protests in its occupied territories.

"It is the duty of the international world to rise with all its means and denounce the Israeli terrorism," state radio said.

### Burned

Israeli soldiers today used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse demonstrators who burned tyres and threw stones in the West Bank village of El Rom, where a Palestinian woman died from Israeli gunfire the day before, the Army said.

An Army spokesman who demanded anonymity said the demonstration lasted for about 90 minutes before soldiers dispersed the crowd. Elsewhere in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a rash of small-scale protests took place, but no injuries were reported.

The Army said a curfew was re-imposed on the Tulkarem refugee camp in the West Bank, restricting the 10,000 residents to their homes. Arab reports said demonstrators threw stones, burned tyres and blocked the main road.

## Shevardnadze in Kabul talks with Najib

MOSCOW, Jan 4. (Reuter): Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze flew to Kabul today and went straight into talks with Afghan President Najibullah.

The official Tass news agency described Shevardnadze's previously unannounced trip as working visit. It gave no details of his discussion with Najibullah.

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### APARTMENT FOR RENT IN BNEID AL-GHAR

One master bedroom, two bedrooms, one maid's room; oil with attached bathrooms; laundry, kitchen, sun-dining room.

Al Majeed Building, while marble cladding, behind the Kuwait Continental Hotel.

Rent: KD 300 per month

Contact tel. No. 5740307

Queen Elizabeth and Prince Charles admire a vintage fireman's helmet after attending church at Sandringham, Norfolk. The helmet belongs to a 1939 Merryweather 'Hatfield'

كذا من الأصل



## Winter sets in

By Jadranka Porter

WINTER has quietly set in in Kuwait with a spell of sunny but cold days and chilly nights and with no storms, of the kind outlined on synoptic charts, gathering on the horizon. It was bright, if cold beginning to the New Year with temperatures falling to 1°C, forcing the residents of Kuwait to bring out their warm clothing, if they haven't already done so.

The demand for sweaters, blankets and electric heaters is on the rise. So is the number of people suffering from cold.

But Kuwait winters are not entirely predictable. Although the air can easily turn nippy, winter in Kuwait is generally described as mild and pleasant. January is the coldest month but winter temperatures are known to have shot up to 30°C. The lowest temperature recorded in Kuwait was 6°C below zero in January, 1964. If past records are anything to go by temperatures, this January will stay above 10°C for most part of the day except in periods between 3 am and 8 am.

### Waiting

The cold spell Kuwait is experiencing now is largely due to high pressure in central Asia which is associated with north-

westerly winds, the portents of cold dry air from the interior of the continent.

Rain is brought to Kuwait on the wings of the south-easterly winds from the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. If it rains heavily this year, it should rain this month. Once they reach Kuwait the rain-bearing clouds seem to scatter in different directions over the country's small territory. So if it rains in Failaka the chances are it won't rain in Shuwaikh.

The rainfall also varies from year to year but it can generally be described as low with the mean total of about 120mm per year.

Kuwait's residents spend months waiting for winter and when it eventually comes they show their appreciation by donning true winter gear. Sometimes they look overdressed, in terms of layers of clothing and the thickness of the fabric.

At the Sultan Center in Salma, a popular paradise ground for shoppers, but also those who want to see and be seen, many women sport hoods and leg-warmers. "I've been waiting for months to wear the winter clothes" said one of them adding that feeling warm is sometimes more than just a matter of

climate.



Low morning temperatures have forced Kuwait's residents to change into their winter clothes. (Pictures by Mohd Bedaq)



Huddling over an electric fire to keep warm is not an image usually associated with Kuwait.



## French deputy for Kuwait

PARIS, Jan 4. (Kuna): Chairman of the France-Arab Circle Deputy Yves Guena leaves today for Kuwait on the first leg of a tour to Gulf states.

Guena, who will stay in Kuwait for four days, is scheduled to meet Kuwait officials to inform them on the objectives of the France-Arab

### Headmistresses urged to attend competition

THE Director of Kuwait's Al Jabra Educational Area Mohammed Ahab Al Kahil urged intermediate school headmistresses to attend the home economics competition which will be held soon. He said that the attendance of the headmistresses would encourage student participation in the competition, which will include cooking, tailoring and decorating events.

Al Kahil said that the purpose of the competition is to nurture a respect for handicraft and a spirit of cooperation among students.

The deputy and former minister will also visit Qatar for three days starting January 9 and conclude his tour to Bahrain the next day.

The France-Arab Circle, which groups a number of national assembly members, government officials and journalists, was formed to promote Franco-Arab relations and to explain the French policy in the Arab world.

Guena was a minister in the government of late President Charles de Gaulle and currently he is the chairman of the Franco-Tunisian Friendship Society in parliament.

Last August, Guena visited Tunisia where he met with PLO leader Yasser Arafat, Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi and former Prime Minister Rachid Sfar.

He also visited Algiers and Baghdad in September for meetings with senior officials in these two Arab capitals.

## Sheikh Nasser hopes 1988 will be the year of Arab solidarity

KUWAIT wishes to see 1988 crown Arab solidarity and unity of purpose and objectives and witness an end to the war between Iraq and Iran, Minister of Information Sheikh Nasser Mohamad Al Ahmed said yesterday.

Speaking in his weekly diwaniyah entitled "the citizen's day," the minister availed himself of the advent of the new year to commend the wise leadership of HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier and their ceaseless pursuit of the fulfillment of the citizens' interests.

The minister lauded the popular uprising of the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as having a worldwide political and international impact, specially among the peace-loving nations.

### Nouri to attend IBE session

GENEVA, Jan 4. (Kuna): Kuwait's Education Minister, Anwar Abdulla Al Nouri, and two senior officials are due in Geneva in mid-January to take part in the annual council meeting of the international bureau of education.

The 24 nations which make up the council have the job of overseeing the work of the IBE, a Geneva research and documentation institute allied to Unesco, which promotes advances in education techniques.

### Take advantage of extended grace period

KUWAIT'S Interior Ministry urged residents in violation of the residence law to take advantage of the extended grace period to legalise their status in the country.

The ministry added that new amendments to the residence law contain strict penalties and that violators have up to January 31 to contact the ministry.

## Need for holding activities for children stressed

THE controller of infant services at the Social Affairs and Labour Ministry, Nawal Al Sallal, has stressed the importance of the decisions and recommendations adopted at the third meeting of directors of GCC youth centres held in the UAE last month.

Asked whether other institutes are being considered in other Western nations and the United Nations, he said the initiative should be taken by the Arab League.

Sheikh Nasser said six Gulf theatrical troupes will attend the first Gulf theatre festival in the first half of coming April along with other personalities interested in the theatre.

Addressing the attendants who included journalists, the minister said the date of the visit of President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt to Kuwait as part of a Gulf tour will be announced in due course.

**Festival**  
On the Arab World Institute in France which was opened by the French President last month.

Sheikh Nasser explained that since France met 60 per cent of the cost of the construction of

### Spare parts shops to be inspected

A SOURCE at Kuwait's Ministry of Commerce and Industry said that the Consumers Protection Department will launch a campaign to inspect spare parts shops and to identify parts which are so badly constructed that they fall apart without any benefit to the consumer.

He said that they will inspect car parts and electrical appliances shops, adding that although these parts are cheap to buy they do not last very long.

There are two other Arab states on the council, Egypt and Syria.

### Greek envoy

KUWAIT'S State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Saoud Al Osaimi received yesterday the Greek Ambassador to Kuwait Konstantin Trokos.

Bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern were discussed at the meeting.

**Japan Week**

JAPAN Week will be launched with kite-flying at Kuwait Science Club on Jan 21. The Japanese Embassy in Kuwait requested that the Science Club supervise the kite-flying and display activities and will bring two Japanese kite experts to instruct children at the club. Seventy children are expected to participate in the programme.

**Bridge construction**

AN OFFICIAL source at Kuwait's General Traffic Department said that the department is preparing for the construction of a bridge over Fahheel Expressway between Fintas and Egala bridge.

The source added that the Fahheel Expressway would be temporarily closed in this area and that three detours would be provided.

One of the detour in the western direction leading from Kuwait to Fahheel will be opened on January 4. The second

detour will be opened on January 8 and the third one will be opened on January 15. The road diversions will continue for three months.

Meanwhile, there were 11 road accidents reported yesterday, four in Kuwait City and seven in Ahmadi.

One accident involved an unlicensed driver who hit the pavement near the Psychiatric Disorders Hospital damaging some of the trees.

### Power consumption

MAXIMUM power consumption during November was 1,865 megawatts on Nov 1 and the maximum water consumption was 112 million gallons on Nov 30 according to statistics released recently by the Ministry of Electricity and Water.

Total water consumption was 3,238,000,000 gallons and total production was 3,354,000,000 gallons.

The report said that Rawdatan and Um Al Aish water wells produced about 1,820,900 gallons, Rawda wells over 972 million gallons, Shuwaikh desalination plant over 697 million gallons, south Shuwaikh plant over 609 million gallons, East Dnha plant 557 million gallons, North Shuwaikh over 151 million gallons, and south Zoor plant over 8 million gallons.

Meanwhile, there were 11 road accidents reported yesterday, four in Kuwait City and seven in Ahmadi.

One accident involved an unlicensed driver who hit the pavement near the Psychiatric Disorders Hospital damaging some of the trees.

### Popular

Tents with cloth over 19 millimeters thick are capable of preventing rain leaking inside. Some coloured tents are bad and the colours wash away with rain.

The dealers explained that tents were measured by the foot.

One tent dealer, Jaza Amer Al Mairi, told the newspaper that the biggest tent he had ever seen had 14 poles, with an area of 150x50 feet, and able to accommodate at least 1,000 people. The smallest tent was 10x10 feet and suitable for two or three persons.

Sizes of European tents were given in numbers and were smaller in size.

## Cooperation needed to fight drugs

THE Director of the Research and Studies Centre at the Interior Ministry, Col. Abdul Majid Khrabiet said recently that the Arab strategy for fighting illegal use of drugs had shown the need for more Arab cooperation in this very important field.

He said that Arab Interior Ministers had decided at their recent meeting in Tunis to go ahead in implementing the strategy to fight drugs and dealers.

He said that Arab cooperation in this field will not be fruitful unless there is a national policy against drugs in each Arab country.

He said that the strategy has adopted three main ways to fight drug addiction and prevent its use.

These are the development of religious, national and social awareness among people. The strategy also called for coordination with the media and paying more attention to the role of social service centres at schools, universities and establishments. It also called for encouraging the formation of anti-drugs societies.

### Treatment

About treatment of drug addicts, Col. Khrabiet said that the strategy adopted several forms of treatment. It called for adopting modern methods of treatment and establishment of special clinics to cure addicts and of other centres for their rehabilitation.

It called for providing more attention to factoring and solving the problems of addicts in the public health programmes of all Arab countries. Col. Khrabiet said that the strategy called for stopping planting of all plants that produce hashish, opium, and heroin from Turkey.

The second part is the Arabian Gulf states which face smuggling of hashish, opium, and heroin from countries such as Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Turkey and India.

The third part is the Arab west that includes Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Tunisia and Egypt. These countries may get drugs from Europe and Turkey.

## Telephone lines increased last year to 547,000

KUWAIT'S Communications Ministry Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Al Ayoub said that one of the ministry's greatest achievements over the past year was the increase in telephone lines to 547,000, adding that the number of lines installed over the past ten years totalled 28,092. Al Ayoub said that the National Day celebrations would include the opening of new telephone exchange in Shuwaikh, with a capacity of 30,000 lines and Jeeb Al Sibyoukh, Sulaihiya and Jahra with 10,000 each.

He added that the ministry would also provide the Wafra exchange with 1,400 additional lines and that a contract had already been signed with local consultants to provide computerised visual data services and an emergency telephone system.

The undersecretary said that a total of 9,397,670 international calls had been made during 1987 from Kuwait.

Meanwhile, the Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative Affairs Saqr Al Sudani said that the Communications

representatives from health, media, social, security and legal departments. The committee would work out policies and plans in each country to strictly watch the use of drugs and fight its illegal use.

The strategy also called for establishing a special department in each Arab country to follow up fighting drugs and its use. This department will operate in coordination with similar departments in other Arab countries.

The strategy also called for working out plans to hold training courses for all personnel involved in fighting against drugs and its smuggling.

Khrabiet said that the strategy called for quick exchange of information between Arab countries concerning drugs, especially information about drug smugglers and traders.

It called also for working out a pan-Arab black list of the names of all dangerous persons involved in smuggling and trading of drugs.

### Smuggling

It also called for preparing an Arab dictionary for the names of drugs and narcotics with a description of all these materials.

Khrabiet said that the Arab world has been divided into three parts concerning the possibility of drug smuggling. The first is the east Mediterranean which includes Lebanon, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Iraq. These countries face smuggling of hashish, opium, and heroin from Turkey.

The second part is the Arabian Gulf states which face smuggling of hashish, opium, and heroin from countries such as Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Turkey and India.

The third part is the Arab west that includes Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Tunisia and Egypt. These countries may get drugs from Europe and Turkey.

The man presented the court with a certificate indicating that his monthly income did not permit him to pay the alimony.

But the court learnt from his bank that the plaintiff's account was well over KD 1 million, and rejected his appeal.

### Alimony case dismissed

KUWAIT'S Personal Status Court has dismissed a case filed by a man for reducing the monthly alimony he paid to his ex-wife and three children.

The undersecretary said that the ministry was continually upgrading its mail service and that further funding was available to improve its performance for the public.

Al Sudani added that the ministry

was continually upgrading its mail service and that further funding was available to improve its performance for the public.

### Youth groups to participate in planting trees

ABDUL RAHMAN AL MZRQI, the Assistant Undersecretary of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour for Youth Affairs, said that authorities are organising youth groups to participate in activities such as maintenance of public gardens and planting trees and shrubs in various areas.

Al MZRQI praised the efforts of youth groups in serving their country and acknowledged their help with traffic police in facilitating traffic movement. He added that members of youth groups also participate in regional and international camps.

### Time to camp in the deserts

PEOPLE have started looking for tents as school holidays are approaching and families start leaving for deserts for camping.

Owners of tent companies told a local newspaper that tents were cheaper than last year and prices depended on the demand. They said that new models of tents had appeared in the market, and tents with partitions, carpets and in different colours were most popular.

They said that the season for selling tents began in December and will last until the end of February.

Most tents were imported from Pakistan and Europe, and Kuwaitis preferred to buy Pakistani tents. Tents from Europe were sold mostly to customers who wanted to erect them in their house yards. These tents had a wider colour choice and were easier to carry and install.

They said that tents made of thicker material were better and could withstand different weather conditions.

### Popular

Tents with cloth over 19 millimeters thick are capable of preventing rain leaking inside. Some coloured tents are bad and the colours wash away with rain.

The dealers explained that tents were measured by the foot.

One tent dealer, Jaza Amer Al Mairi, told the newspaper that the biggest tent he had ever seen had 14 poles, with an area of 150x50 feet, and able to accommodate at least 1,000 people. The smallest tent was 10x10 feet and suitable for two or three persons.

People skilled in erecting tents could put up a family size tent in 15 minutes. The work could be done by two people if the tent had two poles, and by one person if it had a single pole.

Many people came from Saudi Arabia to buy tents in Kuwait although prices were higher, because the tents were of better

## EVENTS

## WHAT'S ON

## SOCIAL

**Kuwait Caledonians**  
Kuwait Caledonians will celebrate Burns' Night on Thursday Jan 28, 7.30pm, at Messilah Beach Hotel. Guest speaker will be Bob Crempsey. For details ring 5610673 or 5335082.

**Kuwait Cultural Centre**  
Dancerice classes will start shortly at the Centre. For further details phone 5624393.

**Vienna Boys Choir**

Vienna Boys Choir will give one performance at 8.00 pm on Jan 5 (Tuesday) in the Grand Ballroom at Kuwait Hilton Hotel. They will play a 40 minute piece by Johann Strauss — Tales from the Vienna Woods.

They will also present excerpts from compositions by Franz Schubert, Peter Eben, Henry Purcell, der Viadana and Benjamin Britten.

**Kapliku**  
The Pakisanang Pilipino Sa Kuwait (Kapliku) will hold its annual general membership meeting on Friday, Jan 8, from 2.30pm at the Philippine Embassy. During the meeting, the Kapliku's constitution will be presented for ratification. New officers will also be elected. All Filipino residents are requested to attend the meeting. For details phone Edna — 5634200 or Gil — 2422301/304.

**Daniella**  
All Danes are invited to a second-hand sale from 10 am on Jan 10. For further details or if Danes want to join, call Marianne on 3948953 before Jan 9.

**KLT**  
Kuwait Little Theatre, Ahmadi, are looking for pianists for a summer musical coming up in March. For further details call 3985246.

## HOTELS

**At the Ramada Al Salam**  
All-day dining at El Bendar Coffee Shop. Grilled specialities featured at the Grill Garden. Snacks and cocktails offered at the Lohay Lounge with live entertainment. Every Thursday night Le Mirage features barbecue with live music.

**At the Hilton**  
La Palma features Oriental, Continental and International cuisine as well as a large array of sweets and desserts for lunch and dinner, buffet. Falafah on the 19th Floor features a specialty menu for lunch and dinner.

**At the Meridian**  
Versailles is open for lunch and dinner, featuring a selection of Continental cuisine, mets and seafood, charcoal grilled to perfection. Business lunch with three choices daily also featured. Live entertainment in the evenings.

**At the Continental**  
Gardenia offers food and beverage service on the Terrace. Daily dinner buffet and on Fridays lunch buffet with charcoal grilled specialities. Darbar features daily lunch buffet and a la carte for dinner.

**At the Holiday Inn**

Businessman's lunch buffet, featuring three main course dishes, salads and sweet buffet, tea/coffee, offered daily at Al Dana Restaurant.

**At the Sheraton**

Dine in the Hunt Room with live music by the gypsy hand. For lunch, Hunt Room offers a la carte. Italian cuisine featured for dinner in the Riccardo Restaurant.

**Al Andalus**  
Police Story  
Starring: Jackie Chan, Brigitte Lin.

**Al Salma**  
Jara Al Wuhoush (Arabic)  
Starring: Noor Al Sharif, Mahmoud Abdul Aziz, Noora.

**Al Hanra**  
Wa Yabqa Al Hub (Arabic)  
Starring: Farid Shawki, Suheir Ramzi.

**Drive-In**  
Al Sadeeqi Kam Tasawi (Arabic)  
Starring: Farid Shawki, Safiya Al Omari.

**Al Ferdous**  
Begana (Hindi)  
Starring: Kumar Gaurav, Rati Agnihotri.

**Fahheel Open-Air**  
Chacha Bhateja (Hindi)  
Al-Fahheel

**Hands of Steel**  
Al Jaha

**Madhu Maloti** (Bengali)  
Granada

**Ithirayum Kalam** (Malayalam)  
Sulabhibhakti

**Rage**  
Al Jeeb

**Navab Sirajuddaula** (Bengali)

**Abmadi Drive-In**  
Ayyam Fi London

## Focus on Pakistan TV

## Ansari stands out among self-styled geniuses

By Ashraf Shad

SEVEN years after my last visit I recently visited Karachi and was shocked by the deterioration of television, which has lost some of its earlier image. The quality of television programmes has gone down for instance. The announcers don't smile anymore, there are tedious talk shows indulging in propaganda and even prime time dramas are not the same anymore.

The plays are boring and move at a snail's pace; characters lecture on the philosophy of life with blank expressions on their faces. Perhaps, it is a lean period for Karachi television. However, there were some small consolations like the absence of Roohi Bano and Khalida Riasat from the television scene. Bano's and Riasat's hypocrite feminist stance, their pretentious artistic claims and pseudo-intellectualism always bothered me.

Pseudo-intellectualism is the latest fad of Pakistani Television's self-styled geniuses. This is one reason why Iqbal Ansari stands out among the "self-styled" pseudo-intellectuals in Pakistan.

Ansari, one of the best-known drama producers in Pakistan, has several plays and serials to his credit. All his plays seem to be inspired by an urge to improve society.

Ansari explained: "I have a strong commitment to develop my country's society, and until I come close to achieving a certain level, I'll not go for pure entertainment."

His assertions are based on convictions and are not simple rhetoric. He talks in a high-pitched emotional voice as he discusses his interest in purposeful drama. "In a developing society, drama should be meaningful," he said. Because of this commitment, he has emerged successfully as one of Lahore Television's serious producers, far removed from the frivolous atmosphere of Karachi's "play group".

A confident playwright, Ansari wants his viewers to "remember his plays". "I don't want viewers to forget the play. I want them to talk



Iqbal Ansari: playwright

about it, discuss it and think about what I have said long after they have seen it," he asserts. He has achieved some recognition for his efforts as the viewers have responded enthusiastically.

**Awareness**

He is striving to create awareness in society. "I want people to be aware of what is happening around them. When I meet someone, if he gives me a feedback, a feeling that he has liked my work, I feel I have conveyed my message."

Ansari's career began with his first successful play entitled "Naey Chehray" (New Faces) in 1976, broadcast by Rawal-

pindi television.

After his first success, he never looked back. He made several productions for Rawal-

pindi TV including Gharan-

day (Sand Castles). Later, he

was transferred to Karachi,

where he produced his first full-

length serial entitled "Caravan".

Caravan won the Pakistan

Television Award.

His recent productions are

Barzak, shown in 1987, on

Pakistan Television. Ansari is

now working on a new serial

called Zahar (Poison), starring

Bushra, his wife and a well-

known actress. The male lead is

being played by Asif Raza

"We are committed to our society and we can't afford to disturb this structure at the moment," he said.

Ansari works diligently with a single-minded purpose: to iron out social discrepancies in his own manner

Meer. Ansari will introduce many newcomers in Zahar.

In Pakistan, there are two schools of drama — Karachi and Lahore. Earlier the Lahore school produced serious and meaningful dramas while Karachi was the home of pure entertainers.

Ansari says this has now changed.

**Blame**

"Now, it is wrong to blame Karachi for showing only light-hearted plays. In the beginning of the 1980s, Karachi also started producing serious drama," he says. Caravan and Barzak were both broadcast by Kara-

chi TV.

Caravan deals with the symbolic migration of people in search of water while Barzak is based on the socio-economic structure of Pakistan. Another of Ansari's plays — Deewar-ein (Walls) based on a thought-provoking subject was also shown.

Such writers as Abdul Qadir Junaid, Noorul Huda Shah and others are turning to purposeful drama in Karachi, he said. "You'll find many writers who have begun to look around them. They are now selecting subjects from their own country."

Playwrights work under constraints, particularly as there is a ban on adapting plays. "All plays must be original and finding a subject for new scripts is sometimes a difficult task," he said.

Ansari spoke highly about Pakistani short story writers but "training them to write teleplays takes a long time". He believes that with time the number of playwrights would increase.

Freedom of expression, said Ansari, is important to put forward "good ideas". Admitting that producers and playwrights work under constraints, Ansari said "structuring plays around pre-determined ideas is essential to build a strong social base."

"We are committed to our society and we can't afford to disturb this structure at the moment," he said.

Ansari works diligently with a single-minded purpose: to iron out social discrepancies in his own manner

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

2.15 Holy Quran

2.30 World News via Satellite

3.30 Hakam Al Aqzam: cartoon serial

4.00 News Summary

4.05 World News via Satellite

4.45 Li Ilaha Illallah: historical serial, featuring Yusuf Shabaa, Raghda, Hala Fakher

5.15 Al Mahabat: children's serial, starring Ahmed Qawadari, Tayseer Attiya

6.15 You and Your Health: local programme

7.00 News Summary

7.05 Afqa Al Faan: Art Horizons

7.35 Al Quds: Part One. A talk show on Jerusalem's history. Guests are Dr Kamel Al Ilmi, Akram Zaatar, Raef Najam, Faiez Jaber and Sheikh Mohammad Shaqra.

8.00 Hadith Al Usbooh: religious talk by Sheikh Ali Al Jassar.

6.15 Good Evening and Local News

9.00 News in Arabic

9.50 Pages from the His-



Jack Nicholson stars in Five Easy Pieces, tonight's Cine Club film on KTV 2.

story of Kuwait

10.50 Al Anzaar: daily Arabic serial; episode 4.

11.30 News Summary

11.35 World News via Satellite

12.15 Holy Quran/Closedown

## KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran

6.10 Rainbow Brite: "Invasion of Rainbow Land," Cartoons.



Cartoons are shown daily on both channels.

## RADIO PROGRAMMES

## English

Morning

08.00 Openios

08.02 Songs and Music

08.05 Thoughts in Islam

08.30 Songs and Music

08.30 NEWS

08.40 Songs and Music

08.40 Daily Programme

09.00 Songs and Music

09.30 They Sold A Million

10.00 Our Press Today

10.05 Songs and Music

10.30 Country Collection

11.00 Closedown

13.30 NEWS on FM Service

EVENING

21.00 Opening

21.02 In The Latin Mood

21.30 NEWS

21.45 Point of View

21.55 Songs and Music

22.00 Mohammad (PBUH)

22.45 Daily Groove

23.45 Hit Serial

23.30 Jazz in action

34.00 Closedown

## BBC World Services

0000 World News

09 News about Britain

1100 World News

09 News about Britain

13 The Mysterious Art of the Conductor

0100 News Summary followed by Outlook

30 Short Story

45 Pressure Points

0200 World News

09 Commentary

15 Network UK

30 Sports International

# ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

VANITY plays lurid tricks with our memory — Joseph Conrad, Polish-born novelist (1857-1924).

### Situation in Sri Lanka

## Economic revival is the way to peace

By Sheila Teff

COLOMBO: A drop in the level of ethnic violence has provided an opening for economic revival in Sri Lanka.

On Dec 4 last year officials of Sri Lanka and 14 other countries as well as lending agencies met in Paris to discuss a \$400 million aid package to rebuild houses, roads, and communications.

The government here hopes it will set this island nation on the road to recovery from the four-year civil war that has left more than 7,000 dead and the economy in shambles.

"Our country must rise, phoenix-like, from the ashes," Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel told the Sri Lankan Parliament recently. "Economic recovery and economic revival is the only way to hold the peace and to consolidate the peace."

But observers say the turnaround that began when Sri Lanka and India signed a peace accord on July 29 is still shaky. In October, the Indian Army, which was brought in to enforce the peace plan, battled Tamil separatists in their Jaffna stronghold. The guerrilla fighting continues today. In November Sinhalese extremists opposing the accord unleashed a wave of bombings in the south, including the capital, Colombo.

#### Claim

The Tamil minority has long claimed discrimination by the Sinhalese who account for about 80 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people. Since 1983, when anti-Tamil rioting swept the country, Tamil militants have been fighting the government for their own homeland in the north and east.

The resurgent violence threatened to postpone the Paris meeting, which observers said would have been a serious setback for President Junius Jayewardene's government. Fresh outbreaks could still choke off desperately needed new aid from the United States, Canada, and other major donors.

Annual foreign aid of \$600 million now provides about one-third of government revenues. De Mel says Sri Lanka needs \$3 billion in new foreign assistance over the next three years to rebuild the country and create new jobs.

"The extremists know they have the government by the economic jugular," an Asian diplomat in Colombo says.

The ethnic conflict has been a severe blow to the Western-leaning economic plans of Jayewardene. After coming to power in 1977, the President opened the country's socialist economy to new foreign trade and investment.

Huge development projects

## UK-France shelf perennial rivalry

By Maureen Johnson

LONDON, (AP): Drilling an undershot tunnel to link them permanently and planning their first joint nuclear missile, France and Britain have shelved their perennial rivalry to embark on a new era of cooperation.

But the mutual suspicion that has always bedeviled the on-again, off-again alliance promise to be an enduring backdrop to the unprecedented Anglo-French programme.

"It is British cash rather than expertise that the French government is after," the Times of London carped immediately after the Dec 14 unveiling of plans by the two countries to develop an air-launched nuclear missile.

#### Sniping

The missile, which British Tories or French Mirage warplanes could fire into enemy territory, results partly from the superpower agreement to eliminate their medium-range missiles from Europe.

Apprehension that further Soviet-American arms treaties could lead to the withdrawal of US forces from Europe is also pushing West Germany and France closer on defence.

Some analysts believe the Anglo-French missile project could lead eventually to the formation of a British-French nuclear force for Europe.

At present, the forces are

King Bhumibol remains the most popular figure

## Key to Thai stability

By Denis D. Gray

BANGKOK, (AP): After more than four difficult decades weathering Thai government coups, revolutions in neighbouring countries and the problems of local development, King Bhumibol Adulyadej has remained the dominant and probably the most popular figure in the country.

Thailand is now in the midst of an 18-month celebration of his 60th birthday, marked Dec 5, and record span on the throne. On July 2, 1988, the King will have reigned for 42 years and 33 days, longer than any other in Thai history.

Palace officials are seeking to dispel rumours that the King may abdicate after the mid-1988 milestone.

"I don't think he will ever abdicate in the true sense of the word," said a key aide to the King, Tongkoi Tongyai. "When you become king, you remain responsible for the happiness of the people forever."

#### Stability

Political scientists like Sukhumhand Paribatra believe the King's retirement would deal a damaging blow to the Thai political system. Many assert he has been the key to stability through eight domestic coups, 10 constitutions and upheavals in neighbouring Indochina.

Some also express concern that if he were to step down, in-

fighting, military resurgents and heightened corruption could follow in this fledgling democracy. His successor would be formally selected by a privy council.

King Bhumibol designs dams, composes jazz tunes and speaks five languages. Slim, bespectacled and impassive in public, the monarch cuts an imposing figure amid the pomp of ancient ceremonies.

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# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Saudi non-oil exports up

Riyadh, Jan 4. (Opec): Saudi Arabia's non-oil exports during 1987 amounted to \$2.51 billion, an increase of 25 per cent over the previous year, Minister of Finance and National Economy Mohammed Ab-Alkhalil said here in a statement carried by the Saudi Press Agency (SPA).

He put the Kingdom's total investment in major development projects since the start of the first five-year plan at \$244.32 billion.

He was hopeful that the new \$37.70 billion Saudi budget would boost the economy and help deal effectively with both development requirements and the present economic situation.

Ab-Alkhalil said that due to global depression, the country's oil revenues had fallen from \$88.12 billion in 1981-82 to less than \$18.70 billion in 1987.

The minister stated that the government had decided to reduce public expenditure by \$5.02 billion, revise customs duties to raise 2.05 billion and issue treasury bonds of different maturities for \$8 billion.

He noted that from 1970 to 1986 the government had spent \$50.20 billion on roads and air and sea ports, \$26.43 billion on municipal projects, \$25.37 billion on public housing, \$20.56 billion on agriculture, \$20.82 billion on industry, \$15.75 billion on electricity and \$11.08 billion on telecommunications.

Ab-Alkhalil said that the real estate fund set up by the government provided the citizens a total of \$50.73 billion and those for social and youth development accounted for \$5.23 billion.

The minister said that in 1987 a surplus of \$3.74 billion had been realised.

## Iranians to negotiate pipeline deal with Turkey

ANKARA, Jan 4. (AP): A delegation of Iranian technical experts is to arrive today to start initial negotiations for a pipeline which would pump Iranian crude oil through Turkey.

Necati Berkam, general manager of Turkey's pipeline company, Botas, said, "We expect to reach a final decision whether to build a Turco-Iranian pipeline or not."

The talks are expected to last about two weeks, he said.

Various plans for natural and crude oil pipelines have been considered between Turkey and Iran.

Berkam said the latest pipeline project under consideration would bring crude from the Ahwaz oilfields in southwestern Iran to a Mediterranean terminal in Turkey, a distance of about 1,500 km (900 miles).

He said a pipeline to reach Turkey's Black Sea coast, reportedly the route favoured by Iran, was not under consideration.

Turkey already has two parallel pipelines, one built in 1977 and the other last year, bringing Iraqi oil to a terminal at Yumurtalik at the eastern corner of Turkey's Mediterranean coast.

## China's untapped desert beckons oil giants

BEIJING, Jan 4. (Reuter): The shifting sands of China's Taklamakan desert are beckoning the oil giants of the West.

Disappointed with poor results from Chinese offshore fields, foreign drillers want to try what some say may be the world's largest untapped oil basin.

Occupying an area about the size of France, the Taklamakan desert stretches across the northwestern region of Xinjiang. Local people call it the 'sea of death.'

**Offshore**  
For, while China has thrown open offshore oilfields and 10 southern provinces to development by foreign companies, Xinjiang stays closed.

A few firms supplied equipment and did seismic surveys, but no foreign drilling has begun.

The region's strategic location between Mongolia, the Soviet Union, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India was a factor behind reluctance to open it up, diplomats said.

"It's one of the world's unkindest places but it could be richest too," said an oilman just back from there.

In winter, Western seismic crews there stop work for two months as temperatures plunge to minus 3 degrees Centigrade, and a geologist who has made several survey trips to Xinjiang said sand dunes 400 metres (1,300 ft) high could bury oil

## British Airways announces new deal for business traveller

# Bid to make BA the best in business

By M.C. Bose

BRITISH Airways organised a reception on Sunday at a local hotel to launch an entirely new standard of business class travel — Club World and Club Europe. The new deal for the business traveller reflects an entire re-examination of inflight service by British Airways with the aim of keeping the airline ahead of its competitors.

The Club World and Club Europe totally revamp the products the company currently offers flying on business both longhaul and in Europe. The move follows one of the most searching market research operations in the history of business travel.

The package also includes new designs for the airline's business classes, new separate cabins and seats on board longhaul aircraft, new airport lounges and a whole series of other innovations designed to take time and hassle out of travelling. It will be marketed as a new mark of respect for the business traveller.

The new developments also signal a new approach by British Airways to the way it markets itself, with the new business classes the first of a range of brands that will be launched by the airline in a bid to encourage greater consumer loyalty.

About £25 million has been allocated to enhance its worldwide travel products. In return the airline is looking to win a bigger slice of business travel market, a segment which already

brings in around a third of the company's revenue, worth almost £100 million a year.

Announcing the new deal Dubai-based BA's regional sales manager for Middle East Nigel Page said: "The whole operation is aimed at getting across the message as widely as possible in a way that reflects the style and positioning of the new products." The overall effect of the presentation will be highly professional. The look and style of Club World and Club Europe will be brought to life and put across in a strong and confident business-orientated way, added a senior BA official.

### Project

Sir Colin Marshall, British Airways chief executive, called the multi-million pound project "a new mark of respect for business travellers."

From today the present Super Club on intercontinental routes will be superseded by Club World, a service tailored to the life style of the longhaul business traveller in the 1990's.

At the same time, services for 6,000 Clubclass passengers every day in Europe will be rapidly improved with the birth of Club Europe.

Every aspect of a business traveller's encounter with the airline will be reviewed to establish Club as a unique blend of British style and service.

Seating comfort was a prime requirement and interior layouts on almost all the airline's 166-plus aircraft are being reconfigured to offer more legroom.

After trials of five prototypes,



Nigel Page

some 2,500 new reclining seats are being fitted in 32 longhaul Boeing 747s and nine TriStars at a cost of £4 million.

Fixed partitions to create separate exclusive cabins will replace the present movable curtain dividers between Club and Economy on all flights.

Express check-in, valet parking, swifter baggage delivery, priority reservations tailored to customer needs are being introduced.

Sir Colin said: "We have spent millions in recent years on improving our services, on the ground and in the air. But we cannot afford the luxury of complacency."

"In a fiercely competitive world, we need the best business class if we wish to be the best airline, hence this huge investment in manpower technology."

Staff throughout the airline have helped create Club World

and Club Europe, and will also be a key ingredient in their appeal.

Says Sir Colin: "Our competitors use the same aircraft as we do. Seats can be copied, luggage and standards of services can be matched.

"They cannot copy what is unique to British Airways — our staff's personal style of service. That sets us above the rest and will keep us there."

Announcing the changes today, Jim Harris, Director of Marketing, said: "When we launched longhaul Club seven years ago, it was unrivalled.

"The market never stands still and our customers have changed. Our current business class was near the end of its life cycle. We needed a total rethink in this, arguably our most important market, before rivals could catch up."

"Club World and Club Europe will now keep us in front where we belong and intend to stay."

### Customers

Target customers are the world's most frequent business flyers, usually men in their 40's, in very senior positions, and on average UK salaries of £35,000 a year, the top one per cent of income earners.

They fly on business more than 20 times a year, and know what rival airlines offer as well as British Airways.

Says Harris: "These sophisticated, successful people have earned their status. We, in turn, must earn their respect — by offering a service to match."

Design consultants went back to basics to produce an "understated, contemporary style reflecting the intelligent thoughtful nature of the service," right down to the finest detail, even baggage tags.

### Goods

Leading young British artists were picked to illustrate menus, and in-flight duty free goods include items chosen for uniqueness and looks.

"Intelligent, creative design is now recognised as essential in developing a successful business; a lesson learned by High Street shops," says Harris.

"People are more visually aware and aesthetically critical of their world. Today's business passenger expects the appearance of excellence. Club World and Club Europe, in design, mood and service, will deliver this."

The creation of Club has taken a year of development by every part of the airline. Market researchers interviewed passengers on what they expected and what was offered. And many praised British Airways' existing service.

"We will continue to ask our regulars how we can meet and exceed their needs still better," said Harris.

"But we will not just be looking at the top end of the market. We are already studying both our longhaul and European Economy products."

"Our aim is to create strong, high quality British Airways brands which our customers will demand by name every time they fly."

## World Business Summary

### Adnoc chief praises Opec agreement

ABU DHABI, Jan 4. (Opec): Sheikh Tahnoon Bin Mohammed, Chairman of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (Adnoc), has said that the Opec agreement on oil production and prices has brought "reasonable stability" in the market. In a statement on the occasion of Adnoc's 16th anniversary, which also coincides with 16 years of independence for the United Arab Emirates, he paid tribute to the company's achievements in all sectors of the oil industry, including exploration, exploitation and the establishment of onshore and offshore projects. He said Adnoc had successfully overcome the challenges posed by the oil market situation and made "great strides" in a difficult environment.

Sheikh Tahnoon said Adnoc's progress constituted a substantial part of the advance made by the country itself. The company had pulled through the crisis of low oil prices and was moving forward. The chairman noted with satisfaction that Adnoc now employed UAE nationals in key positions. Adnoc general manager Sohail Al Mazru said in a message that the company had been able to market its entire share of crude oil, natural gas, as well as excess production from Adnoc refineries. The Ruwais Refinery operated at 103 per cent of its designed capacity and the one at Um Al Nar at 110 per cent with an average production of 123,000 b/d. Al Mazru said seismic surveys carried out by the company up to October 1987 covered 6,928 km in all areas. Additional discoveries of natural gas had been made and project implementation was on schedule.

### Hunt Oil Co. to develop second Yemen oilfield

NICOSIA, Jan 4. (AP): The US Hunt Oil Co. plans to start production at a second oilfield in North Yemen this year, an oil weekly reported today. The respected Middle East Economic Survey, published in Nicosia, said the new Azal field in the northeast of the country has a tested output of 5,400 barrels a day. North Yemen's first commercial field, at Alif, 9 miles (15 km) from Azal, was discovered by the Hunt Co of Texas in 1984. The impoverished Red Sea country began producing oil late last year. While it is unlikely to ever become a major producer, oil revenue will do much to help modernise the country. North Yemen's output was expected to reach 135,000 barrels a day later this year and increase to around 400,000 barrels a day. The Azal field will be linked to a 270-mile (440-km) export pipeline from Alif to the Red Sea that will have an initial capacity of 225,000 barrels a day. The weekly reported that Hunt was continuing drilling operations in an off-shore Red Sea concession even though France's Elf-Aquitaine pulled out of a partnership after a series of dry holes. The survey said that the US Exxon Corp a partner with Hunt Oil in the Marib-Jawf region, will start drilling within the next two weeks in an 8,500-square-mile (22,000 sq-km) concession in central North Yemen. The weekly reported that joint ventures in other parts of the country involving CFP-Total of France and Texaco and the Geneva-based Consolidated Petroleum International Corp are under study.

## Oteiba sees rise in oil prices

ABU DHABI, Jan 4. (AP): Oil Minister Mana Saeed Oteiba was quoted today as predicting that spot oil prices will rise "within a few days" to the Opec benchmark price of \$18 a barrel.

In an interview with the state-run Al-Ittihad daily, Oteiba said prices had already improved to nearly \$17 a barrel because of adherence to production restraints and pricing policy by Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries' 13 member states.

### Credibility

"The month of January will be the true test for Opec's credibility," Oteiba said.

"If the Opec member states continue to adhere to the production and pricing policies and refrain from offering any discounts, then the spot market price will rise within a few days to \$18, the official Opec price."

He said Sri Lanka had also asked for up to \$270 million from a recently announced IMF scheme designed for African nations. Finance Ministry officials said De Mel had asked the IMF to treat Sri Lanka's request for help under this scheme as a special case.

**Request**

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**South Korean economy growing**

SEOUL, Jan 4. (AP): South Korea's Gross National Product grew by 12.2 per cent in real terms this year, according to preliminary figures released last week by the Bank of Korea.

It would be the second consecutive year of double-digit GNP growth and the world's highest in 1987, the Central Bank said. South Korea's GNP grew by 12.5 per cent in 1986.

"People want elections. And after my statement they feel the government will hold elections although they had doubts

earlier," De Mel said, calling on religious leaders, intellectuals and academics to lead the call for polls.

"They must guide the people. The people will trust their direction," he said.

De Mel, who stressed the need for a political solution to Sri Lanka's troubles, said he was hopeful some political stability would return in the next six months.

"I cannot be certain about peace but I feel this is possible if we make some effort to solve problems of extremist youth," he said.

"People want elections. And after my statement they feel the government will hold elections although they had doubts

earlier," De Mel said, calling on religious leaders, intellectuals and academics to lead the call for polls.

**Denied**

But he denied a suggestion by one oil source that China is in the early stages of talking about raising \$5 billion from Japan to develop Xinjiang.

Japan is a major buyer of Chinese oil. In July, the trading house C. Itoh and Co agreed to buy crude oil and oil products valued at over \$1.4 billion over 10 years.

Despite being the world's sixth oil producer, China has chronic energy shortages and, according to state councillor Kang Shih'en will need an annual 200 million tonnes of crude by the year 2000 for its domestic needs.

De Mel said output this year would be 134 million tonnes, more than 90 per cent from onshore fields in eastern China.

**Future**

Petroleum Minister Wang Tao says: "The future of China's oil industry is in the Northwest, specifically Xinjiang region."

China oil journal quoted him as telling a national oil conference in October that Xinjiang held an important, strategic position in the oil industry.

The newspaper said Xinjiang's three large fields held 28 billion tonnes of oil, one third of China's total. Promising, high-yield oil and gas test wells had

## RELATIVE TO THE RECENT CRASH OF THE N.Y. STOCK MARKET & ITS INTERNATIONAL RAMIFICATIONS, IN WHAT INVESTMENT AREA WILL THE NEXT BREAK IN THE NATIONAL INFLATION BUBBLE LIKELY OCCUR — THE ONE THAT DESTROYS EQUAL OR GREATER WEALTH?

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\* The USA's horrendous international trade account deficit: Will the coming settlement impact negatively upon your investment program?

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## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

## LONDON

LADING STOCKS

LAND SEC'S

NAME	LAST	NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
ABBEY LIFE	246/0	A.B. ELECT	360/0	360/0
ALD LYONS	350/0	CAMB INST	54/0	53/0
ANSTRAD	115/0	CANB. B&K	245/0	245/0
ARGYLL GP	190/0	CANNING W	177/0	178/0
ASDA MFI	170/0	CAP. RADIO	110/0	110/0
A B FOODS	296/0	CALEDONIA	320/0	320/0
BAA PP	95/0	CAFEOS	100/0	100/0
BTR	279/0	CARADON	269/0	270/0
BAT IND'S	446/0	CARLSON	161/0	161/0
BARCLAYS	463/0	CARLTON C	160/0	160/0
BASS	830/0	CARLTON C	160/0	160/0
BEAVER	172/0	CARLESS C	95/0	96/0
BECHAMS	457/0	CARLTON C	160/0	160/0
BET ORD	227/0	CARLTON C	160/0	160/0
BICE PLC	344/0	CATER ALL	340/0	340/0
BLUE ARR	102/0	CENTL. ITV	447/0	448/0
BLUE CIRC	433/0	CHATERA	254/0	254/0
BOC GP	403/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
BOOTS CO	237/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
BPP IND'S	260/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
BR COMM	315/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
BR AIRWAY	150/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
BR AEROSP	330/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
BR GAS PP	125/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
B.P.	258/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
BR. NEW	73/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
BR TELCOM	225/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
BRITOL	447/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
BUNZL	165/2	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
BURNDAY	437/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
BURTON	223/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
CABLE & MTR	345/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
CADDIBUR	242/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
COATS VIY	270/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
CONN UNI	347/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
CONS GOLD	917/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
COOKSONS	522/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
COURTAULD	339/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
OECEP	208/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
DIXONS	206/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
ENG CHINA	400/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
ENTER OIL	258/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
FERRANTI	87/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
FISONS	260/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
GEN ACCIO	183/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
GEN ELEC	164/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
GLAXO	603/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
GRANADA	303/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
GLOBE	128/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
GRAND NET	45/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
GUS A	120/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
GUARD RYL	839/4	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
GKN	290/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
GUINNESS	292/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
HAMMERSH	520/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
HANSON	128/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
HAKER S	448/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
HAWLEY	93/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
HILLSDOWN	285/0	CHARTER	254/0	254/0
WALL ST GAINS				
LONDON, JAN 4 - SHARE PRICES WERE BUOYED IN LATE TRADING BY A STRONG PERFORMANCE ON WALL STREET FOLLOWING RENEWED STRENGTH IN THE DOLLAR. VALUES WERE AT THE DAY'S HIGHS, BUT TRADING VOLUMES REMAINED RELATIVELY LIGHT, DEALERS SAID.				
AT 1538 GMT THE FTSE 100 SHARE INDEX WAS 27 POINTS UP AT THE DAY'S HIGH OF 1,739.7.				
EARLY INTERVENTION BY THE BANK OF JAPAN TO SUPPORT THE U.S. CURRENCY, FOLLOWED BY THE BUNDES BANK AND SWISS NATIONAL BANK, PULLED THE DOLLAR ABOVE THE DAY'S LOWS AND LIFTED MUCH OF THE GLOOM GENERATED BY TOKYO'S 346.96-PONI FALL IN THE NIKEI AVERAGE, DEALERS SAID.				
WALL STREET GAIN OF AROUND 50 POINTS AFTER AN HOUR AND A HALF'S TRADING HELPED, IN ADDITION TO CURRENCY CONSIDERATIONS, BY A REPORT OF STRONGER ECONOMIC GROWTH IN DECEMBER COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH AND NEWS U.S. CONSTRUCTION SPENDING ROSE 2.2 PCT IN NOVEMBER AFTER A 0.1 PCT FALL IN OCTOBER, DEALERS SAID.				
DEALERS STRESSED THE MOOD ON THE LONDON EQUITY MARKET REMAINED CAUTIOUS IN THE SHADOW OF THE DOLLAR'S RECENT SHARP DECLINES. MOST BELIEVE THE U.S. WILL HAVE TO SHOW A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN THE NEAR TERM TO STAVE OFF FURTHER DOWNWARD PRESSURE ON THE DOLLAR.				

## LONDON

ISIN'S STOCKS

LAND SEC'S

LAST PRICE

OPEN

HIGH

LOW

LAST

OPEN

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

الإمارات

## International Bond Highlights

London — This year is likely to be a tough one for the Eurobond market, with the dollar still vulnerable to sell-offs, and too many underwriting firms chasing too little underwriting business, analysts told *Norma Cohen*.

Amsterdam — Dutch bonds were expected to trade without a clear trend in moderate business this week as investors waited for clear signals of official efforts to stem the dollar's fall, dealers and analysts said.

Paris — Credit Lyonnais is to issue two bonds worth up to a maximum 1.5 billion francs in total, one fixed interest rate and one floating rate, the official bulletin said.

Paris — Cie de Navigation Mixte is issuing a 1.2 billion French franc bond convertible into shares, paying a floating interest rate 0.30 pct below average money market rates for the Dec/Nov reference period, the official bulletin said.

Luxembourg — Denmark's Jutland Telephone A/S is raising 300 mln Luxembourg francs through a five-year private placement carrying a coupon of 7-1/2 pct and issued at par.

Luxembourg — Généline SA is raising 300 mln Luxembourg francs through a six-year private placement carrying a coupon of 7-3/8 pct and issued at par, lead manager Banque Générale de Luxembourg SA said.

## Eurobonds Rates

	CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN	8-5/8 3/8	8-11/16 9/16	9 8-15/16
FFT	3-25/35	3-45/55	3-45/55
PAR	8-1/4 5/16	8 8-1/8	8-1/2 5/8
ZUR	7/8 1-1/8	2-1/4 2-1/2	2-5/8 2-7/8
BRK	5.05	6-5/8 3/4	6-11/16 13/16
RON	9-5/8 10-1/8	10-1/2 11	10-3/4 11-1/4
AMS	3-1/4 3-3/4	4-3/8 4-1/2	4-1/2 4-5/8
TOK	3.750 8125	3.8125 8750	3.8750 9575
ECU	6.31 6.56	6.75 6.87	6.875 7.000

## Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday:

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	3 1/4	3-11/16
3 months	4-3/4	5-1/8
6 months	5-1/8	5-5/8
1 year	5-3/8	5-7/8

## BOMBAY

	PR CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GHFC	30.25	30.25	31.50	MODI ALKA 1	--	--
ACC	156.50	157	155	GRAYON 120	--	--	--	MARDACHT	--	--
AIRADIV	--	--	--	GSFC	88	88	87.50	ORKAY	24	24
AIRADIV 400	--	--	--	GUJPETRO	22	22	22.50	PRAENATO	25	24.50
ANDHRA CEM	11.50	11	11.50	GAJALORON	96	96	97.50	RAYMOND CO	--	--
ANDHRA VLY	--	--	--	HINDALCO	115	116	118	RAYMOND HO	--	--
BAJAJ AUTO	4475	4600	4550	HYD LAMPS	--	--	--	RELIANCE	113	114
BAR RAYOR	150	145	150	IND ORG	25	22	23	SPIC	29.50	29
BOM OYING	95	97	100.50	INDRAYON	52	52	53	STD MILLS	205	195
BOMBAY STOCK PRICES	--	--	--	INDROL	190	185	190	STD MEDICAL	--	--
BSE INDEX	435.70	435.70	ITC	39	38	39	STEELTUBE	--	--	--
CENTURYSPI	642.50	655	660	ITC CO	--	--	--	TATA PUR	187.50	182.50
COLGATE	195	194.50	194.50	JK 120	--	--	--	TATACHEM	67	66
DECKAPERT	33	31.50	33.25	JKSYNTH	60.50	62	63.50	TATAOIL	82	82
DHARCENT	--	--	--	L A M T	79	77	79	TELCO	365	360
FIOMC ORG	--	--	--	MAGNAHARD	--	--	--	UDAIPHOSPH	--	--
GARURPOLT	79	78.50	78	MAHINDRA	53	52.50	50.50	VOLTAS	--	285

## FRANKFURT

	STOCK	LAST	PR-CLOSE	MITSUB CP	950	989	MITSUB EL	500	505	MITSUB EST	1520	1620
AEG	176.0	190.2		AKAI ELEC	400	411	MITSUB HVY	495	520	MITSUB KUH	1420	1500
ALLIANZ VR	10.00	11.44	0	ASAHI GAS	1660	1700	MITSUBI CO	617	650	MITSUBI EL	989	1010
BADENWERK	179.5	179.5		ASAHI OPT	516	530	MITSUBI KUH	1420	1500	MITSUBI KUH	0	1190
BASF	239.0	255.5		BANK TOKYO	1200	1270	MITSUBI KUH	0	1190	MITSUBI KUH	710	710
BAYER	250.0	263.8		CANON	905	925	MITSUBI KUH	675	710	MITSUBI KUH	1230	1300
BAYER HYP	322.0	333.0		CASIO CORP	1100	1140	MITSUBI KUH	1230	1300	MITSUBI KUH	1870	1850
BAYER VER	302.0	316.0		CHUGAI KNG	1450	1450	MITSUBI KUH	267	266	MITSUBI KUH	267	266
BBC	279.0	280.5		CITIZEN W	500	494	MITSUBI KUH	1040	1000	MITSUBI KUH	1040	1000
BHF	305.0	322.0		D-ICHI KAN	2710	2730	MITSUBI KUH	359	362	MITSUBI KUH	359	362
CHEMIE-VER	420.0	447.0		DAI NIP IK	695	710	MITSUBI KUH	470	490	MITSUBI KUH	470	490
CHEMIE-VER	204.5	214.0		DAI NIP PT	2240	2300	MITSUBI KUH	705	725	MITSUBI KUH	705	725
CHOMERZK	186.0	205.2		DAI NIP SC	0	800	MITSUBI KUH	2550	2660	MITSUBI KUH	2550	2660
CONTI GUMM	532.0	575.0		DAI NIP TO	411	405	MITSUBI KUH	890	930	MITSUBI KUH	890	930
DAIMER BEN	117.0	122.0		DAICEL	700	695	MITSUBI KUH	926	941	MITSUBI KUH	926	941
DEUTSC BANK	373.5	388.0		DAIMA SEC	1430	1450	MITSUBI KUH	751	767	MITSUBI KUH	751	767
DLW	290.0	297.0		D-ICHI KAN	741	758	MITSUBI KUH	755	760	MITSUBI KUH	755	760
DRESDNER 8	222.0	232.0		DAIMA SEC	1430	1450	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
ECAZ INDEX	1424.00	1425.18		DAIMA SEC	1430	1450	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
ECOLAND	2250.00	2230.61		D-ICHI KAN	2710	2730	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
EDM	10.00	0		DAIMA SEC	1430	1450	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
EL	10.00	0		D-ICHI KAN	2710	2730	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
EN	10.00	0		DAIMA SEC	1430	1450	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
IND	10.00	0		D-ICHI KAN	2710	2730	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
INTL	10.00	0		DAIMA SEC	1430	1450	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
INTL	10.00	0		D-ICHI KAN	2710	2730	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
INTL	10.00	0		DAIMA SEC	1430	1450	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
INTL	10.00	0		D-ICHI KAN	2710	2730	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
INTL	10.00	0		DAIMA SEC	1430	1450	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
INTL	10.00	0		D-ICHI KAN	2710	2730	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
INTL	10.00	0		DAIMA SEC	1430	1450	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130
INTL	10.00	0		D-ICHI KAN	2710	2730	MITSUBI KUH	1110	1130</			

## Central banks rescue dollar from record lows

LONDON, Jan 4. (Reuters): Central bankers around the world scrambled to rescue the dollar today after it began 1988 by hitting record lows. Gold prices declined.

It nosedived to touch 120.20 Japanese yen and 1.5615 West German marks in early Tokyo trading. But steady dollar buying by the Bank of Japan — dealers estimated it bought \$1 billion plus three interventions by West Germany's Bundesbank and buying by the Swiss National Bank later pulled it higher.

French government officials confirmed the existence of secret clauses in an agreement last month by the Group of Seven leading industrial nations.

### Pledged

The accord publicly said they did not want the dollar, down almost 25 per cent in 1987, to keep sliding. News reports said the secret clauses pledged central banks to prop it up.

"The central banks have made a fairly forceful display," a New York dealer said, as the dollar held steady just above 1.58 marks and 122.5 yen. The dollar traded at nearly \$1.88 to the pound sterling and at just above 1.28 Swiss francs, up from an earlier record

low of 1.2620 francs. Shares prices on the first day of 1988 trading generally eased, although trading volume in most centres was light because people wanted to see where the dollar would settle.

Frankfurt stocks fell 5.5 per cent. Paris dropped 2.5 per cent and Zurich two per cent. In Tokyo, the world's biggest market, shares slipped 1.6 per cent.

But Wall Street and London bucked the trend. The Dow Jones industrial average rose more than 25 points in early New York trading to a high of 1,968. British shares were up 1.6 per cent in London's mid-afternoon, helped by the dollar's rebound.

But many currency dealers were unconvinced that the display of central bank muscle today would be enough to lift the dollar, which has been hit by anxiety about the US economy.

### Perception

"Intervention just gives you a get-out," said a London dealer. "It will take either a change in US policy or in Europe's perception of the US economic situation to shift sentiment."

Most dealers said they wanted to see more intervention by the

US central bank, the Federal Reserve.

That, they said, would give them some assurance the United States was ready to support the dollar whole-heartedly.

But, even so, many said the dollar would not stop sliding until the US trade and budget deficits started coming down.

The Central Bank buying came as dealers weighed a report by the Paris daily, *La Tribune De L'Expansion*, saying the Group of Seven industrial nations — the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Italy, Britain and Canada — secretly agreed last month that their central banks would buy dollars when dealers started selling enough to push its value down too far.

### Clauses

It quoted French Finance Minister Edouard Balladur for the information. The ministry later said there were secret clauses in the G-7 statement, but declined to discuss their content.

"The market is waiting for the United States to take a firm stance that the dollar will not fall any further," said Hiroyuki Wada, general manager at Okasan Securities, in Tokyo.

Dealers say the United States

needs a cheap dollar so that its government IOUs — Treasury bonds — are attractively priced overseas and so that US companies gain a price advantage over foreign competitors, both in the US and in world markets.

### Critical

And so, since the dollar's value is key to the profits of European and Asian companies, stockbrokers say it will be a critical factor in whether share prices rise or fall.

"It's the dollar again," a Frankfurt dealer said. "People see it falling even lower. 1988 looks like being another hard year for the stock market."

Frankfurt's 30-share Boersen-Zeitung index fell 14.77 point, or 5.5 per cent, to close at 254.10.

The Paris Bourse indicator slipped 2.47 per cent and the All-Share Swiss index dropped two per cent, or 15.2 points, to 754.2.

Tokyo's 223-share Nikkei index fell 346.96 points, or 1.61 per cent, to 21,217.04 — "the patterns seem to be continuing from last year," said Norio Omaichi, a broker at Sanyo Securities in Tokyo. "If the dollar is down, the market is down."

In London, shares firmed after

the central banks intervened to support the dollar. The FTSE 100-share index rose about 1.6 per cent, or nearly 27 points, to approach 1,740, led by gains in share prices of big dollar-earning companies.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng index slipped 16.46 points to close at 2,286.29, but had plunged nearly 100 points as trading opened today following the weekend arrests of the former stock exchange chairman and two top aides.

Singapore's Strait Times industrial index rose 10.03 points to 833.61 but the Australian All-Ordinaries index fell 21.5 points to 1,297.4.

### Gold

In London, the price of gold was fixed at \$480.50 an ounce this afternoon, down six dollars from its close on New Year's eve.

Trading was thin, and dealers said bullion was marked down mostly in reaction to the dollar's bounce. Gold is traditionally a haven for investors when the dollar is weak.

Elsewhere, Swedish, Belgian and Italian shares eased, but a rise in the price of North Sea oil boosted Norwegian shares.



Tokyo's money brokers hustle on the first day of trading for the New Year yesterday as the dollar fell to post-war lows against the yen and mark. (Reuters wirephoto)

## European industry braced for dollar squeeze in 1988

## Slower growth predicted for West

LONDON, Jan 4. (Reuters): European industry is bracing for a big squeeze in 1988 as each new fall in the dollar makes US imports cheaper and Europe's export markets tougher.

Unemployment in Europe is already close to 20 millions, and no one knows how much or how soon this new 'bear hug' will hurt, although economists polled by Reuters at the start of 1988 generally talked of a slower expansion and not a recession.

But with Far Eastern competitors very active and a sluggish West German economy holding down demand for goods in continental Europe, some people in financial markets fear they may not have discounted bad news far enough.

### Tough

"It's going to be a very, very tough year for Europe with very slow growth," said David Lomax, chief international economist at Britain's National Westminster Bank. "Growth of between eight and nine per cent is pretty bad, but it won't be recessionary."

Economist Christopher Potts at France's Banque Indosuez said: "For Europe as a whole the international environment is going to be very uncomfortable, if only because of the need of US industry to win back market share at the same time as South-East Asian competition is going

to be very fierce."

Airbus Industrie is the European consortium which builds airliners, competing with US giants Boeing and Douglas.

French Trade Minister Michel Noir caused a stir last month when he told the daily *France Soir* that the dollar's 25 per cent fall in 1987 was "a catastrophe for Airbus."

West German carmakers Daimler-Benz AG cancelled four additional Saturday work shifts before Christmas because of the weakening dollar, which cuts its US sales.

But some analysts say Europe's near-term fears are overdone.

### Optimistic

"The optimistic way to look at it is that it doesn't look as though there's going to be a recession in Europe in 1988," said George Magnus at London brokerage Warburg Securities.

Europe's central banks acted swiftly and together to cut interest rates after the Black Monday October 19 stock market crash and could do so again if inflation stays under control.

Lower interest rates mean cheaper borrowing for consumers and industry, and are held to stimulate economic activity.

But hopes for further decisive European government cooperation

to fuel growth look forlorn — "the European Economic Community has not fully effective means of coordinating macroeconomic policy," said National Westminster Bank's Lomax.

West Germany, at the core of European business, stressed in December its reluctance to be pushed into being an economic engine for its neighbours.

"From the German point of view, the present economic situation does not require further measures," it told the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development after the OECD had called on it to expand faster.

### Central role

"Very little is possible in Europe without Germany playing a central role," OECD director Kjell Anderson commented.

Bonn seems more worried about inflation and its spending deficit than growth, but some economists say it will change.

"Since the crash some of the regional politicians, big businesses and banks have increasingly started to challenge the conventional view that fighting the budget deficit is the first priority," said Richard Ried, chief European economist at brokers Phillips and Drew.

The industry-backed Institute for the West German Economy (IW) sees real 1988 German

growth of less than one per cent and major employers are said to be very worried.

Economists think Bonn may step up privatisations and liberalise strict shop trading hours to encourage spending.

But analysts note Germany's falling birthrate means whatever growth is around goes further per capita. They say the German electorate won't feel a slowdown as sharply as others and may vote out the politician who risks inflation for extra growth.

French politicians will be hamstrung until after presidential elections in the spring. Meanwhile, a big debate is brewing on the cost of a social security system forecast to run up a 19 billion franc (\$3.5 billion) deficit this year.

"One very big question coming up is the future and the cost of the welfare state," Bank Indosuez's Potts said.

### Unrepeatable

New British tax cuts are on the agenda as Britain enters 1988 with strong growth. But the price of above-average expansion is a widening trade deficit and perhaps inflation. If they sap confidence in sterling, interest rates may have to stay high.

Italian Prime Minister Giovanni Goria has said: "A period of virtually unrepeatable economic progress has finished.

## Indonesia seeks new markets to boost trade

WASHINGTON, Jan 4. (Reuters):

Indonesia, seeking new markets for its rubber, coffee and other primary commodities, has identified China and Eastern Europe as key areas for expanding exports in 1988.

President Suharto singled out China and Eastern Europe as targets for expansion during an end-of-the-year cabinet session to review the budget he will announce on Thursday, government officials said today.

Suharto has followed a staunchly anti-communist line since rising to power after a failed coup in 1965, which he blamed on Beijing-backed communists, but in the last four years has approved increased trade with communist states.

Indonesia, the largest country

in South-East Asia, only

reopened direct trade with Beijing in 1985 and still has no formal diplomatic ties.

Although there are no detailed figures, businessmen say trade with China has started to boom.

In November, Indonesia signed a \$1.5 billion contract to supply 4.5 million cubic metres of plywood to China over three years.

thing is going to have to give it is going to be the dollar."

The Reagan administration and many independent economists have lowered expectations for growth following the October 19 market crash, and government data suggests they are right.

Economists said the Fed would try to avoid higher interest rates at least until the full impact of the stock market collapse on the economy became clear.

### Inclined

It might be more inclined to raise them to brake consumer spending, if it looked as if high spending, plus higher import costs as a result of the weak dollar, were giving a twist to inflation. But lower oil prices promise to check inflation.

### Guess

"My guess is they are not going to be eager to raise interest rates," said Kathryn Koe, vice-president of Joel Popkin and Co., a Washington-based economic consulting firm. "Their primary goal is to keep the economy out of recession, especially in an election year."

Presidential elections are due in November.

Kobe said she thought the central bank, the Federal Reserve Board, had decided "that if any-

thing

is going to happen to the economy basically is in a box," Ratajczak said. "It could damage both the US and world economies."

Donald Ratajczak, director of economic forecasting at Georgia State University, said leaving the dollar under pressure was the only option open to the government.

"The administration basically

is in a box," Ratajczak said. "It could raise interest rates, but very few economists would recommend that."

**Sharply** ...

... but if the dollar falls too sharply, it could damage both the world and US economies.

The Group of Seven leading industrial democracies two weeks ago issued a statement saying any further dollar decline or fluctuations in exchange rates could be counterproductive.

of which would come from industrialised countries. African officials say the Western contribution is far short of the target.

**Exports**

Adedeji, a Nigerian, said the value of Africa's exports rose slightly in 1987 to \$45 billion from \$44.3 billion in 1986. The sum would have been higher if world prices for commodities such as tea, cocoa and coffee had not fallen.

African manufacturing continued to suffer from a shortage of foreign exchange to buy imports while in the mining sector only copper, gold and diamond prices rose in 1987, he added.

In agriculture, the eastern and southern parts of the continent were hardest hit, with droughts in Ethiopia, Malawi, Zambia, Botswana, Zimbabwe and parts of Sudan and Uganda.

indicates a real decline in the average African's per capita income and food production in 1987.

ECA figures cover all of Africa including the Arab north but excluding white-ruled South Africa and Namibia.

Adedeji blamed the sluggish growth in 1987 on external factors such as stagnant or declining export earnings, the continent's foreign debt of \$200 billion and a poor international response to Africa's emergency programme for economic recovery.

"Nothing short of vigorous implementation of the recovery programme would provide the hope and the means for recovering and the resumption of strong growth," he added.

**Decline** ...

The overall and farming growth rates are both well below population growth at about three per cent a year, which

## African growth below target

ADDIS ABABA, Jan 4. (Reuters):

Africa's economy grew 1.5 per cent in 1987, a bit faster than the 1986 rate of 1.2 per cent but below a forecast of two to four per cent, a senior United Nations official said today.

Adebayo, Adedeji, executive secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), said in an end-of-year message that the prospects for 1988 were uncertain because of what he described as a difficult economic environment.

Farm output grew by no more than one per cent in 1987, down from three per cent in 1986 and 2.5 per cent in 1985, mainly because of weather, civil strife with interests, and refugee problems, he said.

**Decline** ...

The overall and farming growth rates are both well below population growth at about three per cent a year, which

indicates a real decline in the average African's per capita income and food production in 1987.

However, dealers noted, the upside of the dollar should be limited and any recovery is likely to be short-lived and as there is still no fundamental reason to buy dollars.

The dollar began at 120.55/65 yen in Hong Kong and slid marginally before Bank of Japan buying support pushed it near the 121 level. It closed at 121.00/10 yen in New York on Thursday after hitting a low of 120.95 yen there, and was last quoted at 120.70/121.00 in Bahrain on Sunday.

Intervention by Bundesbank and Swiss National bank followed by the Bank of Japan, helped the dollar for a firmer start in Europe. After fluctuating wildly in a two pfennig range in Tokyo, the dollar began at 157.95/05 marks in Frankfurt and further firmed to start at 158.03/10 in London. Tokyo

Growing consumer awareness on commercial use of kangaroo skins

## Activists battle kangaroo killers

By Timothy Aeppel

WASHINGTON—In Britain, eight running-shoe manufacturers have stopped using kangaroo leather in their products. The European Community Parliament, meanwhile, slapped a partial ban on the import of kangaroo skins in September, and a bill introduced in the United States Congress calls for even more stringent controls.

These efforts reflect the growing push by a fervent coalition of environmentalists and animal-rights advocates against one of the largest commercial wildlife harvests in the world.

Nearly 3 million kangaroos will be killed in Australia this year for commercial uses. Others will be hunted illegally or eliminated as agricultural pests.

Australian officials consider it "culling" and say it is necessary. They argue that kangaroos over-populate many parts of the country and compete with cattle and sheep for pasture—points hotly disputed by critics.

The killing of kangaroos has long stirred controversy inside Australia, where the marsupial is a cherished national symbol. Activists now want to make it an international issue as well.

"The mainstay of the export market," says Lorraine Thorne, an organiser with Greenpeace International based in London. "So we believe the most effective approach is to make the international community aware of their involvement in the slaughter."

Greenpeace is orchestrating the international campaign, including last year's drive against running-shoe companies. In that case, the environmental lobbying group wrote to firms in Britain, showing them an advertisement that they planned to produce naming shoe companies that use kangaroo leather.

"(The firms) had an opportunity to stop their name from being associated with kangaroo skin, and they took it," says Ms. Thorne. Indeed, four

of the companies—including Nike and New Balance—have vowed to make their products "kangaroo free" worldwide.

A consumer campaign is also being prepared for the US. In January, the International Wildlife Coalition based in Falmouth, Mass., will publish a booklet listing US companies that use kangaroo skin in their products.

Many products aren't labeled kangaroo skin, so it's taking a lot of investigation on our part to pin-point the items," says Marian Newman, the coalition's Washington-based programme director.

Australia earns about \$10 million a year from its kangaroo trade, most of it from skins exported to Europe, North America, and parts of Asia. The leather is used in everything from handbags to baseball gloves. A much smaller market has developed for kangaroo meat, which is sold as a delicacy in some parts of the world.



Kangaroo leather is used in everything from handbags to baseball gloves. Australia earns about \$10 million a year from the trade.

John Clune, a spokesman for the Australian Embassy in Washington, says, "We just can't accept the argument that the larger species which are hunted commercially are in any way endangered" by the culling programme.

Australian officials estimate that there are at least 19 million of the three largest species of kangaroos. These three—the red, eastern gray, and western gray kangaroos—are the primary targets of hunters.

It's the methods of the killing, as much as the hunt itself, that has stirred controversy.

Films produced for European, US, and Japanese television use graphic footage to show how the animals are spotlighted at night, then killed with a shot to the head. Australian officials contend that

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## Dear Junior Readers,

Some of you have probably written your New Year's resolutions and after five whole days of the New Year, you have probably even had time to break a few of these resolutions.

I would love to hear from you about your resolutions; the things you want to change in 1988. It would also be interesting to hear about what kind of problems you have in sticking to your resolutions.

Please write or drop by the Arab Times office and share with us your New Year's goals.

Thank you,

Aunt Barbara

## Firsts and lasts

An apprentice miniature-painter in the Kangra school in India is only allowed to pick up a brush and paint for the first time after ten years of training. Some of the brushes they use are so fine that they are made of only one hair.

The famous painting 'Mona Lisa' painted by Leonardo da Vinci, which is the most valuable picture in the world, was first called 'La Gioconda.'

A female vole, a rodent smaller than a mouse, can have her first babies only 25 days after she herself is born.

When statues of famous men on horseback were first put up in Roman times, a tradition was started which is still in practice today. If the horse has all four feet on the ground, it means that the rider died a natural death; if the horse has one or two hooves in the air, it means that the rider died in battle.

More first-born babies are born during a waning moon (when it gets smaller) than a waxing moon (when it gets bigger).

Charles Lindbergh was not the first man to fly the Atlantic though many think he was. In fact he was the sixty-seventh; the others flew across the Atlantic, but not alone, as he did.

The last thing King Frederick the Great of Prussia, who lived in the eighteenth century, used to do before going into battle was to have his veins opened. The letting of blood, he said, calmed his nerves.

For the first six or seven months of our lives, we can do something that we are never able to do again; swallow and breathe at the same time.

## Names on the map

1. After whom is the Caribbean Sea named?
2. What prompted the Italian explorer Amerigo Vespucci, when sailing along the northern coast of South America in 1499, to give it the name Venezuela?
3. Apart from both being in Africa, what do the Sahara Desert and Lake Nyasa have in common?
4. Can you name Tamerlane's capital?
5. In 1513<sup>1</sup> Ponce de Leon named a group of islands after the Spanish for 'shallow water'. What do we know them as today?
6. What is the only island state in the Caribbean to be named after a church?
7. The former French territory of the Asfars and the Issas is now which independent state on the Horn of Africa?
8. The Netherlands means literally what?
9. In 982 Eric the Red sailed west from Iceland and reached the shores of an island further north. Why did he name it Greenland, when it was far colder and less hospitable than the island he had left?
10. What European city is famous for a cathedral containing the shrine of the Magi and for a scent it produces?

Answers: 1. After the fierce Carib Indians, who inhabited the island of the area. 2. When he encountered native villages built on wooden piles in the shallow water, he was reminded of Venice, and so he named this area 'little Venice', or Venezuela. 3. Since Sahara is from the Arabic word 'Sahara', meaning 'desert', and since Nyasa is a corruption of the Bantu word 'nyanza', meaning 'lake', the Sahara Desert and Lake Nyasa are Desert Desert and Lake Lake, respectively. (Lake Nyasa has been known as Lake Malawi since 1965.) 4. Samarkand. 5. The Bahamas, from the Spanish 'haya mar'. 6. Antigua, which Columbus named after Santa Maria Antigua in Seville. 7. Djibouti. 8. Low-lying lands. 9. By giving it a lusty-sounding name, he hoped to attract settlers. 10. Cologne, Germany.

THERE was once an old woman who was very poor and had nothing left to eat. She looked in all her boxes and all her drawers, on all her shelves and in all her cupboards until at last she found a little flour. She tipped it into a little round pot and cooked some soup with it. When she had eaten it, she washed the pot and laid it on the window-sill to dry, saying, 'Now I shall certainly starve to death, unless God helps me.' Sadly she sat down in her rocking-chair and fell asleep.

The sun shone on the little round pot and dried it, and the pot said, 'Now I must be on my way.'

'Where are you going to, little round pot?' asked the sun.

'I am going to the market-place, to get some food for the poor old woman.' And the little pot bounced down from the window-sill, and off into the town to the market-place, where it rolled about amongst all the people.

Along came a farmer who was carrying a sackful of beans, and he did not know what to do with them. 'Little round pot,' he said, 'you have come just at the right time.' And he emptied all the beans into its little round body.

As soon as the little round pot noticed that it was full again, it said,

'Now I must be on my way.' So it turned round and rolled back to the old woman. It thumped on the door and cried, 'Open up, open up! It is the little round pot!'

and laid it on the window-sill to dry, thinking, 'God has helped me once — perhaps he will do so again!' Whereupon she fell asleep.

Once again the sun came out and dried the little round pot, and again it said, 'Now I must be on my way.'

The old woman awoke, went to the door and opened it. She looked at the pot, and she was overjoyed when she saw the beautiful juicy beans in its little round body. She cooked herself some bean soup with them, washed the pot till it was spotless.

It bounced down from the window-sill, and off into the town. It rolled into a butcher's shop, and bounced up onto the coun-



## Man's best friend in Lapland is his reindeer



Maybe you thought reindeer were only used to pull Santa's sleigh, but people in the cold desert or tundra of Lapland depend on reindeer for their hides and milk as well as for pulling their sleighs. Peoples of the Lapps and Siberia have semi-domesticated these wild deer which gather in herds of hundreds or thousands for their annual migrations between summer and winter quarters. Reindeer differ from other deer in that both males and females grow antlers.

up! It is the little round pot!'

The old woman was indeed delighted. She opened the door, lifted up the little pot, and drank all the warm broth. As before, she washed the little round pot till it was spotless, and laid it on the window-sill to dry.

Once again the sun came out and dried the little round pot, and again it said, 'Now I must be on my way.'

The little pot noticed that it was warm and full. It bounced down from the counter, and rolled back to the old woman. Once again it thumped on the door, and cried, 'Open up, open

the street.

The pot thumped at the old woman's door, and called, 'Open up, open up! It is the little round pot!'

The woman hurried to open the door, and here she nearly popped out of her head at the sight of so much gold. She hardly gave herself time to shake it out and to wash the pot, and then, rather than waste time laying it out on the window-sill, she pushed it out of the door, crying, 'Hurry, little round pot, hurry back and bring me more.'

The little round pot was very angry, and it grumbled, 'Very well, very well, I'll be on my way.' But instead of going to the rich man, it rolled along into the town until it came to a halt where some workmen were mending the road. There it waited until it was full of pebbles, and then it rolled back to the old woman. It thumped on the door, saying, 'Open up, open! It is the little round pot would hold.'

As soon as the little round pot noticed that it was full, it bounced down from the table, out of the door and down the stairs, hump, bump, bump.

'Come back! Come back!' shouted the rich man, but the little round pot had already disappeared round the corner of the street.

The little round pot rolled along into the wide world, and it never came back to the old woman. As far as I know it is still going. Perhaps you will meet it some day.

## The curse of the lost idol

Back in her cabin, Annie tried to piece together the clues she had gathered. But they didn't make sense at all and thinking about them gave her brain ache. Then a brilliant thought struck her. The photos! Perhaps they would help.

Annie picked out one of the photos taken just after the idol vanished. Around the empty stone block were four sets of fresh footprints.

Annie's brain started to work at 'double speed'.

...Whoever took the idol must have been near the block — close enough to lift the idol off it. So one set of footprints must belong to the thief.

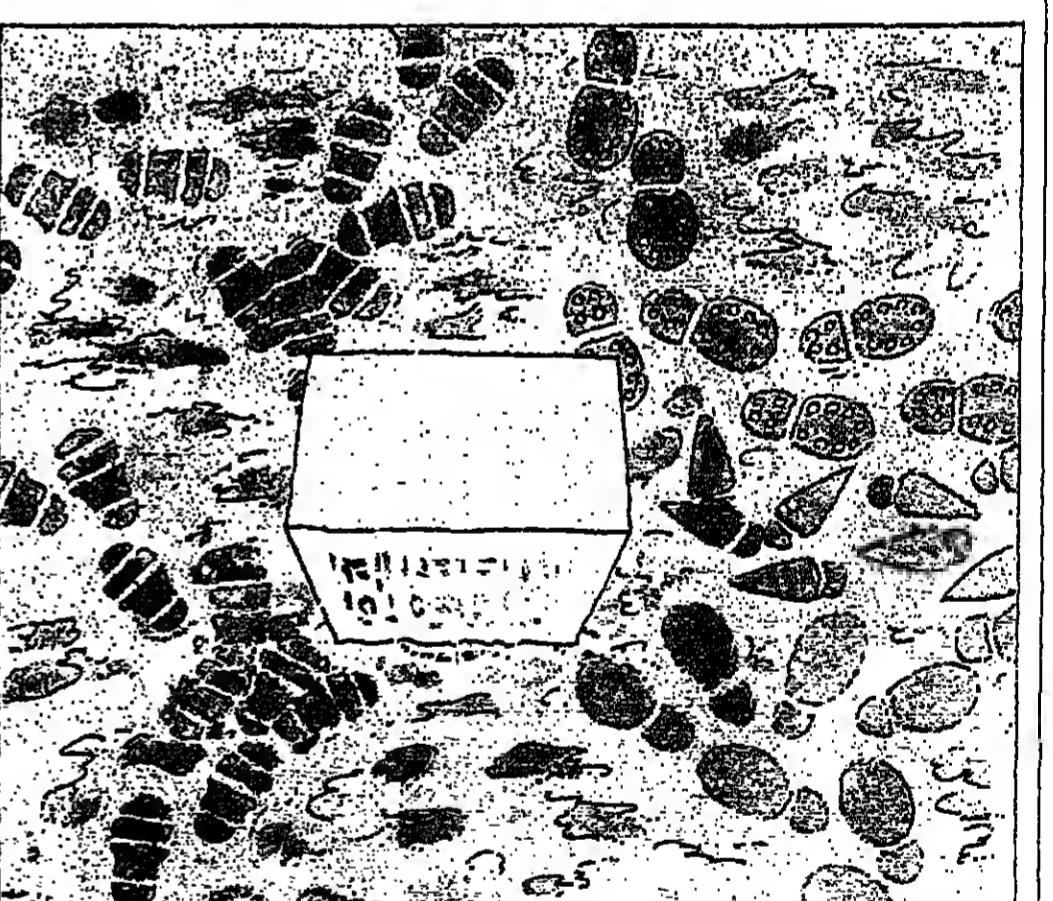
Annie was very impressed by her brilliant bit of brain work. But how could she discover whose footprints they were? She worked out an ingenious plan.

After supper, Annie left the other passengers playing Egyptian snakes and ladders and crept along the

corridor towards the cabins. Just as she expected, they had all left their day shoes outside their doors to be cleaned. Swiftly and silently, she crept between the cabins, checking each pair of shoes against the photo she clutched in her hand.

At the end of her search, she knew that at last she was close to finding the thief.

Whose shoes made the prints?



PROFESSOR POTT'S DESERT BOOTS



TERRY TRUBBLE'S TRAINERS



DEVILLA'S STILETTOS



DRUSILLA'S FLIP-FLOPS



SAM SCOOP'S SNEAKERS



ANNIE'S BASEBALL BOOTS



LUIGI MACARONI'S WINKLE PICKERS



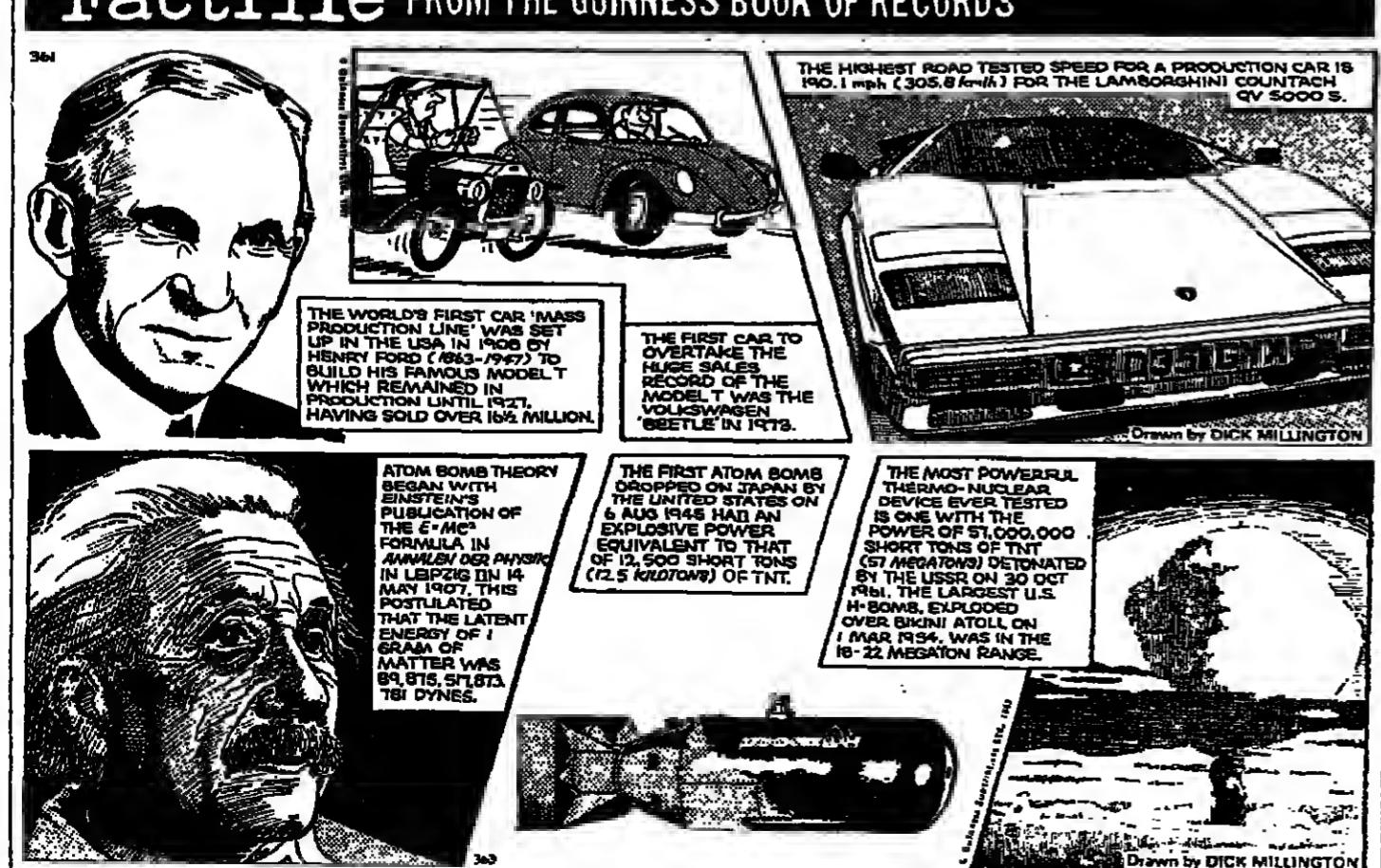
HARRIET'S SPIKEY BOOTS



DR BOFFIN'S PROGGIES

Answer: The footprints in the sand were made by Professor Pott, Luigi Macaroni, Sam Scoop and Dr Boffin. This means that one of these four is the thief.

## Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS



## How...

## How truffles are found

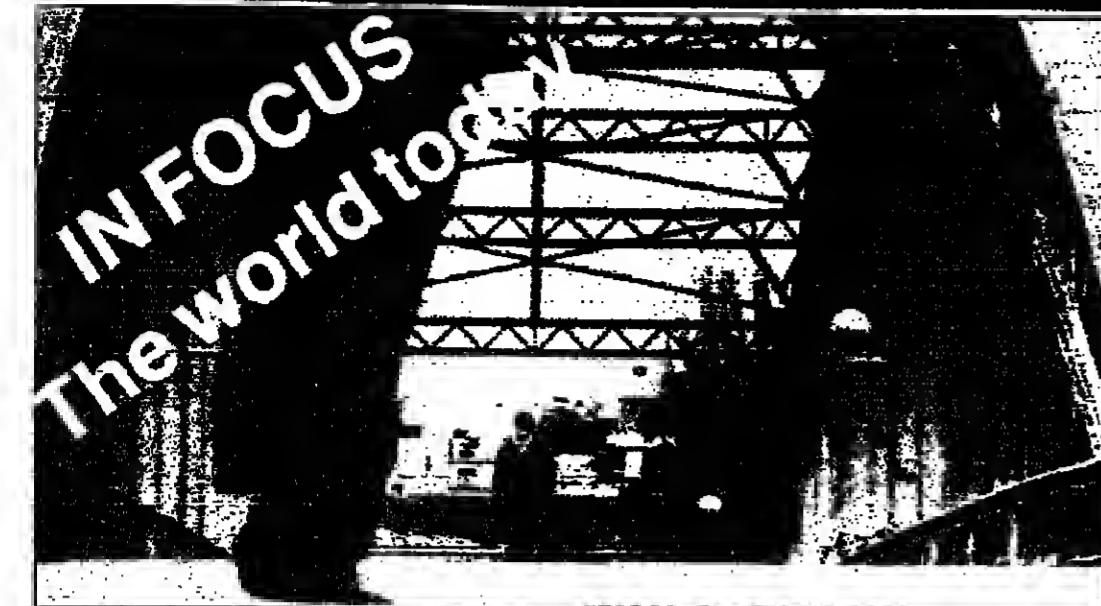
The truffle is a strange fungus that grows from 5 to 10 centimetres below the ground. It can only be located by the peculiar smell it gives out and the best way to find it is to use a pig or a dog which has been trained in truffle hunting.

The dog or pig is taken to the place on a lead. As soon as it smells a truffle the animal is released and runs to the spot. The pig digs the truffle up with its nose; the dog uses its paws. The animals are rewarded with something to eat.

Some truffles are as big as a clenched fist but others are much smaller. There are two main types of truffle: the black and the white. The white truffle is much more sought after for its pungent and penetrating taste. It is a pale, dirty yellow in colour.

# INFOCUS

## The world today



PEDESTRIANS walk across the footbridge in Paris where a West German diplomat Siegfried Wielspuatz was fatally wounded in the early hours of the morning yesterday. A letter with the name of the Kurdistan Liberation Movement (MLK) was found on the body according to police sources. (Reuter wirephoto)



POPE JOHN Paul II served dinner to a group of about 130 homeless men and women on Sunday becoming the first pope in modern times to sit down and eat with the poor inside the Vatican. (Reuter wirephoto)



PALESTINIAN mourners raise the corpse of a child killed yesterday in an Israeli air raid on Palestinian and Lebanese targets in south Lebanon. At least 19 people, including seven children, were reported killed in the first Israeli attack this year. (Reuter wirephoto)



AMERICAN actor Dustin Hoffman poses with his daughters Jenna, aged 17, and Becky, aged four, at Heathrow Airport on Sunday. Hoffman, who has a home in London, was on his way back to New York after spending the New Year holiday in London. (Reuter wirephoto)



A PALESTINIAN woman in the Jabalya refugee camp stands in a line yesterday as she and other women wait to receive food from a United Nations Relief and Works Agency distribution centre. The Gaza Strip, a narrow strip of land between Israel and Egypt contains a total population of 650,000 of which 450,000 live in eight refugee camps. The strip is 340 square kilometres in area. (Reuter wirephoto)



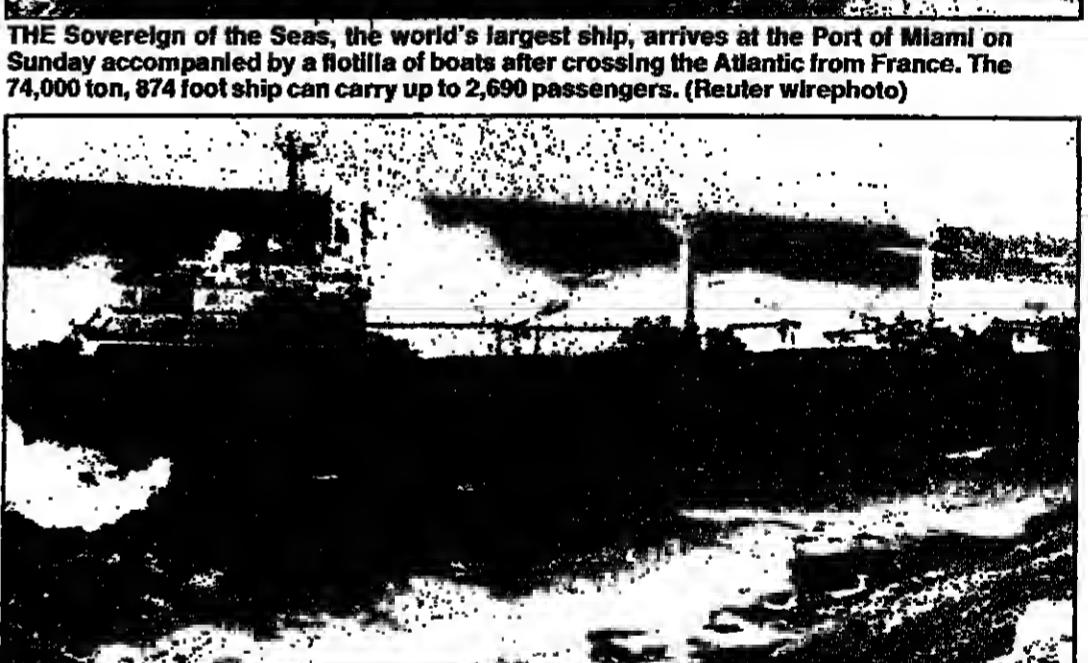
THE Sovereign of the Seas, the world's largest ship, arrives at the Port of Miami on Sunday accompanied by a flotilla of boats after crossing the Atlantic from France. The 74,000 ton, 874 foot ship can carry up to 2,690 passengers. (Reuter wirephoto)



TIM SERTICH finds a unique way of introducing his 19-month old daughter Rachel to the joys of skating as he pushes her around the ice on Lake of the Isles, Minnesota, on Sunday. (Reuter wirephoto)



HUNDREDS of retired soldiers of the Chinese Nationalist Army which fled to Taiwan from China in 1949 queue for grants to return home after a nationwide cash-raising drive that netted about 240 million Taiwan dollars (\$8.4 million). About 25,000 people have applied to visit China since the government eased a ban on travel to the mainland last November. (Reuter wirephoto)



HEAVY seas have driven the Cypriot freighter "Mittera Sotila" on to the shore of this northwestern Spanish coastline. The Mittera Sotila crew have been evacuated by helicopter and authorities said that if the storm continues, the ship could break. (Reuter wirephoto)



AN AERIAL view of an Ashland Oil Company facility located 15 miles southeast of Pittsburgh shows the remains of a diesel fuel tank that dumped 4.5 million gallons of fuel into the Monongahela River on Sunday. A 16-mile slick flowed as far as downtown Pittsburgh, halting river traffic. Coast Guard officials said. (Reuter wirephoto)



A BROKER in the Hong Kong Stock Exchange ponders over the figures after a sharp opening fall of nearly 100 points during trading yesterday following the weekend arrest of former Stock Exchange Chairman Ronald Li and two top aides. The Hang Seng Index, the main share indicator, fell to 2,206 in the first few minutes of trade. (Reuter wirephoto)



JESSIE BARCELONA, ground equipment operator at the Manila International Airport, testified yesterday that he saw a soldier shoot Benigno Aquino on August 21, 1983 as the opposition leader returned from three years of self-imposed exile in the United States. (Reuter wirephoto)

# ARAB TIMES MARKET PLACE

## Classifieds

### ACCOMMODATION

#### Wanted

ONE room for a Lebanese bachelor (engineer) to share with an American or European family. Tele. 5715840. (AT2-40418-3)

#### Available

SALMIYA, near Indian School. Furnished room for one or two bachelors to share with water, electricity and tele. Tele. 2461373. 8 am - 1 pm, 5659062 after 2 pm. (AT4-40412-3)

FAIHA, Area 7, Street 78, House 12. One room for Indian bachelors, spinsters or couple. Contact Mr. Fernandes personally, after 5 pm. (AT3-40423-3)

KUWAIT City, Al Sayer Building, 5th Floor, Room 7 (behind UTC building). Big room for a Filipino family. Tel. Rose, 4842588 ext 2466. (AT2-40410-3)

KUWAIT City, Sharq. One independent room in a 2-bedroom flat for 2 or 3 Indian bachelors from 1st February. Tele. 2445561, 5-9 pm. (AT4-40432-3)

KUWAIT City, (near Meridian Hotel) Fahad Al Salem Street. One furnished room in a 2-bedroom flat for one Indian working lady to share with an Indian family. Tele. Suresh, 2415470. (AT4-40413-3)

#### For Rent

SALWA, near Kuwait English School) deluxe, CAC, new apartments comprising 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living, dining area, large kitchen and balcony. Rent KD250. Tele. 5391720, 5382783, 1-8pm. (AT3-40425-8)

#### FOR SALE

##### Furniture

ONE drafting table, 75cmx110cm, white, adjustable top and metal sliding parallel, one rolling chair and lamp (Kao). Price KD55. Tele. 5336310 evenings. (AT3-40435-3)

##### Boats

STEUART Stevens, 21ft, with cabin, HP370 (jet red/white colour, in excellent condition. Tele. Ninoz William, 2431375, 9am - 6pm. (AT3-40430-3)



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- Data Entry, Basic, Lotus 123, dBase III operation, Cobol, Word Processing.
- ★ Typing \* Shorthand \* Telex \*
- ★ Accounting \* Arabic language

Salmiya - Salem Al Mubarak St. Tel. 5714124, 5719758

Huqra - South Nuqra Centre, 1st Floor. Tel. 2649158, 2665106

#### SITUATIONS

##### Vacant

MAID required to live-in. Reasonable terms and conditions. Tele. 2412722, 8.30am - 12.30pm, 4-6.30pm.

(AT2-AJ-3)

MAID required for an American family to live-in. Must read and write English, have references and a transferable visa. Tele. 2439817, after 8 pm.

(AT3-40427-3)

##### Wanted

MAID Filipino. Experienced with children. Prefers to work for American, British, European or Australian family with transferable visa. Full-time. Tele. 4897610.

(AT3-40433-3)

ACCOUNTANT, Indian with 25 yrs experience including 12 years in Kuwait (specialty in Airlines accounts) with a transferable residence seeks employment.

Tel. 5316379 — 8 am - 12.30 pm and 4.30 - 7.30 pm.

(AT2-40415-3)

##### NAME CHANGE

I, Vallathkozhipillil Narayanan Kutty, hereby announce that my name will be known as Vallathkozhipillil Narayanan Kutty Nandan Menon.

(AT4-40454-1)

I, Mary Irene Nora Sequeira, holder of Indian passport No S 216889 hereby wish to change my name to Thuraya Sequeira.

(AT2-40414-3)

I, Hozema Norman Gadiwala, holder of Indian passport No. V 940594, hereby change my name to Khozema Norman Gadiwala.

(AT4-40443-2)

##### MISCELLANEOUS

MAID, Eliza, who applied for a job on 31.12.87. Please call again. Tele. 5313724.

(AT4-40444-3)

##### RENT





## SPORTS

OILERS OVERCOME SEAHAWKS IN OVERTIME

## Vikings rout Saints in NFC playoffs

NEW ORLEANS, La., Jan. 4. (UPI): Anthony Carter caught one touchdown pass and returned a punt 84 yards for the longest return in National Football League (NFL) playoff history, as the Minnesota Vikings upset the New Orleans Saints 44-10 yesterday in the National Football Conference (NFC) wild-card playoff game.

Backup quarterback Wade Wilson threw a pair of touchdown passes as the Vikings held the Saints to 53 yards rushing and 96 yards passing overall.

Minnesota's Darren Nelson led the rushers with 17 carries for 73 yards.

Carter returned six punts, averaging 23.7 yards per return and also caught six passes for an additional 79 yards.

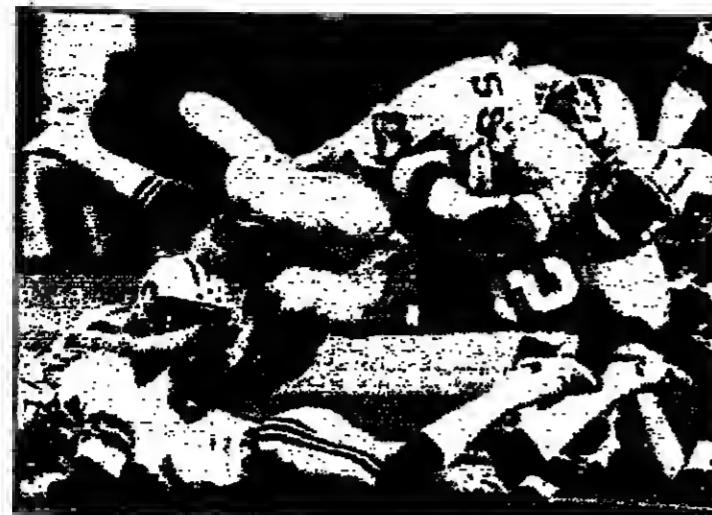
## Fumbled

New Orleans scored first, taking advantage of a Minnesota turnover when quarterback Tommy Kramer fumbled and Vaughn Johnson recovered on the Vikings 11. Two plays later Bobby Hebert passed ten yards to Eric Martin for the score.

The Vikings got on the board at 6:59 of the first quarter when Chuck Nelson kicked a 42 yard field goal after New Orleans turnover.

The Vikings blew the game open in the second quarter, outscoring the Saints 21-3 for a 31-10 half-time lead.

The only score of the third quarter was Chuck Nelson's 32-yard field goal. In the fourth



Alonzo Hishamith (32) is stopped by Seahawks' Brian Bosworth (55) in the second quarter. (Reuter wirephoto)

quarter Nelson kicked a 19-yard first quarter field goal and added another one from 49 yards out in the second quarter. As the first half ended, he missed from 52 yards when he hit the crossbar straight on.

Earlier, Zendejas kicked a 47-yard first quarter field goal and added another one from 49 yards out in the second quarter. As the first half ended, he missed from 52 yards when he hit the crossbar straight on.

When Zendejas missed with 1:47 remaining in regulation time, Houston was leading 20-13. Seattle quarterback Dave Kreig then marched his team the length of the field in just 11 plays, hitting wide receiver Steve Largent with a twelve-yard touchdown



Oilers Doug Smith dumps a cooler over Oilers' head coach Jerry Granville while he is hugging Kenny Johnson. (Reuter wirephoto)

remaining in regulation time, hooked the winning field goal slightly to the left but it went through the uprights.

Minnesota now travels to San Francisco to play the 49ers next Saturday in the next round of the playoffs.

And in Houston, Texas, Tony Zendejas' 42-yard field goal and five seconds into sudden death overtime gave the Houston Oilers a 23-20 victory over the Seattle Seahawks yesterday in the American Football Conference wild card playoff game.

Zendejas, who missed from 29 yards out with 1:47 seconds

pass with 26 seconds remaining. Norm Johnson's extra point tied the game at twenty-all and forced the overtime.

In the overtime, Seattle woo

Highsmith and Mike Rozier until he reached the Seattle 23 yard line. Another running play lost three yards, setting up Zendejas' winning effort.

Moore completed 21 of 32 passes for 273 yards and was intercepted once. He threw one touchdown pass. Kreig was 16 for 38 for 237 yards with no interceptions and two touchdown passes.

Houston will play at Denver next Sunday and Indianapolis visits Cleveland in the first round of the AFC divisional playoffs.

## England name three new caps for rugby tournament

LONDON, Jan. 4. (AP): English Rugby Union selectors today named three new caps for the season's opening Five Nations Championship match against France in Paris on Jan. 16.

Forwards Jeff Probyn and Micky Skinner, and Harlequins centre Will Carling have been brought into the team following the final England trial staged at Twickenham last weekend when the "B" squad gave the selectors a big headache by upsetting the first-choice side 13-7.

## Replaces

Probyn takes over from Gary Pearce at tight head prop for the match against the French, while Skinner replaces Gary Rees as blind side flanker. Carling teams up in midfield with Kevin Simms, the alliance that played for the defeated England senior team in Saturday's trial.

There are recalls at half back for Les Cusworth and Nigel Melville.

Cusworth won the last of his 10 caps four years ago and Melville returns to the Pardes Princes, where he last played international rugby in 1986, suffering a serious neck injury that threatened to end his career.

This pair take over from Peter Williams and Richard Harding, who were in the England side defeated in the World Cup quarter-final by Wales last June.

A sixth change from the World Cup losing team is the return of John Orwin at lock. He won all his seven caps in 1985.

Probyn, on the fringe of selection for some years, said France was "one of the top teams in the world. I've always enjoyed playing in matches against French sides as it can be fast and exciting stuff," he said.

"It's a golden opportunity and if we can all do well in this match we'll really have something to build on."

Team

Jon Webb (Bristol); Mike Harrison (Wakefield, capt.), Will Carling (Durham University and Harlequins), Kevin Simms (Wasps), Rory Underwood (Leicester), Les Cusworth (Leicester), Nigel Melville (Wasps); Paul Rendall (Wasps), Brian Moore (Nottingham), Jeff Probyn (Wasps), John Orwin (Bedford), Wade Dooley (Fylde), Micky Skinner (Harlequins), Dean Richards (Leicester), Peter Winterbottom (Huddersfield).

Replacements: Ray Adamson (Wakefield), Rob Andrew (Wasps), Richard Harding (Bristol), Gareth Chilcott (Bath), Graham Davey (Bath), Gary Rees (Nottingham).

## Austrian coach denies reports

INNSBRUCK, Austria, Jan. 4. (UPI): Paul Ganzenhuber, 44, the head coach of the Austrian ski jumping team discounted reports he was about to quit the job and instead said he may stay in the position for another four years.

"If the federation wants me after my contract expires in May, I'll be happy to stay," he said.

## Thinks

"It is not a question of money. We will talk about restructuring and reorganisation which I think must be made with the programme."

## Hawks brush aside Clippers

## Lakers take Trail Blazers to task

PORLAND, Oregon, Jan. 4. (AP): The Los Angeles Lakers insist that they genuinely feel threatened by the Portland Trail Blazers.

The Blazers claim they're inching closer to the defending NBA champs in the Pacific Division.

But when the two tangled last night, the result was familiar: a Lakers blowout and the 23rd Los Angeles victory in the last 27 games between the two teams. Los Angeles won 98-81, their 10th straight victory.

## Percentage

Portland's shooting was as icy as the weather outside Memorial Coliseum. The Blazers' .284 field goal percentage was an all-time franchise low and the worst in the League this season. Their 27-10 record was also a team record. The only other NBA game last

night was no prettier. Atlanta was their lowest total of the season.

## Hawks 121, Clippers 84

Atlanta crushed the Clippers for its fifth straight victory, with Dominique Wilkins scoring all of his 26 points and Doc Rivers passing for all of his 15 assists as the Hawks grabbed a 74-40 half-time lead.

Johnson missed the game because of bone spurs on his feet, an ailment that team doctor Bob Cook says may bother him the rest of the season. Vandeweghe is out with a sore back.

The Lakers took control of the contest in the second quarter, boosted the lead to 25 in the third period, then withstood a minor Portland rally that cut the lead to 15 in the final quarter.

The loss snapped Portland's 11-game homecourt winning streak. The Blazers' 81 points

was their lowest total of the season.

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## SPORTS

**Lewis beats Saceanu in three sets**

AUCKLAND, Jan 4. (Reuters): New Zealander David Lewis came back from one set down to defeat Christian Saceanu of West Germany today in the first round of a Benson and Hedges tennis tournament here.

Lewis, after dropping the first set, took the next two 6-4 7-5.

The 19-year-old Saceanu, ranked 82nd in the world, tore through the first four games, breaking Lewis twice. The West German served aces in the second and fourth games and again broke in the seventh game to take the first set.

Lewis went about the second set more like the hunter than the hunted. He broke immediately in spite of a third ace from Saceanu.

Firmly stroking his drives, Lewis matched his opponent for power and placement.

After clinching the second set, Lewis broke the West German's service in the first game of the third set.

Instead of hitting aces, Saceanu began to serve double faults — three in the third game when Lewis again broke service.

Australian John Frawley beat New Zealand Davis Cup player Bruce Berlin 6-3 6-3.

**Results**

John Frawley (Australia) beat Bruce Berlin (New Zealand) 6-3 6-3; Jonas Svensson (Sweden) beat Tim Wilkinson (US) 6-2 6-0; David Lewis (New Zealand) beat Christian Saceanu (West Germany) 1-6 6-4 7-5; Todd Witsken (US) beat Paolo Cane (Italy) 6-3 6-1; Marty Davis (US) beat Damir Keretic (West Germany) 3-6 6-3; Jim Crabb (US) beat Carl Stech (West Germany) 6-2 7-6; Grant Connel (Canada) beat Omar Camporse (Italy) 7-5 6-4.

**Graf emerges from a week of seclusion**

MELBOURNE, Australia, Jan 4. (AP): The world's top-ranked woman tennis player, Steffi Graf, who is to compete in the Australian Open Tennis Championships next week, today emerged from a week of seclusion.

Graf, of West Germany, said her main competition in the Australian Open would be Martina Navratilova, who beat her in last year's Wimbledon and US Open finals.

Graf, the reigning French Open champion, took over from the Czech-born American Navratilova as the world's top ranked woman player last year.

**Arrived**

Defending champion Hana Mandlikova and former World No. 1 Chris Evert are also in the field.

Graf arrived in Australia a week ago to begin practicing for the \$1.9 million tournament, which will be held at the New National Tennis Centre at Flinders Park in Melbourne from Jan 11 to 24.

Graf, who had refused to speak to reporters since her arrival, today said at a news conference that she believed the synthetic surface at the stadium would suit her better than grass, which was previously used for the Open.

"The serve bounces very high, and it is difficult to return if someone serves and volleys," she said.

**Van Rensburg moves into 2nd round**

SYDNEY, Australia, Jan 4. (AP): Top seed Christo van Rensburg of South Africa recovered from a slow start today to defeat Australian John Anderson in the first round of the New South Wales Open tennis championships at White City.

Van Rensburg, ranked 29th in the world, trailed 2-4 to Swedish-born Anderson in the first set but came back to win 7-5, 6-3 against Anderson, a semifinalist in last week's South Australian Open in Adelaide.

**Comprises**

Seventh-seeded Joey Rive of the United States also advanced to the second round of the \$123,400 32-draw men's event, which comprises part of the Nabisco Grand Prix.

Rive, of Florida, overcame his unfamiliarity with grass courts to defeat Englishman Stephen Shaw 7-6 (7-4), 7-6, 7-5, in a 92-minute struggle. Rive managed to save a set point in the 12th game of the second set.

Massimiliano Narducci of Italy scored the only surprise of the opening day of the men's event by ousting eighth-seeded Tom Nijssen of the Netherlands 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.

**ARAB @ TIME**

Published by:  
Dar Al-Seyassah

**CURRY OUTPOINTS AQUINO TO EARN SHOT AT CROWN****Rosi stops Thomas in 7th round to retain title**

GENOA, Italy, Jan 4. (AP): Italy's Gianfranco Rosi retained the World Boxing Council super welterweight crown by knocking out challenger Duane Thomas of the United States in the seventh round today.

The 30-year-old Italian sent Thomas across the ropes and to the canvas for the count of 10, 50 seconds into the round, with an impressive combination of left and right hooks.

It was the first title defense of Rosi, who had won the crown from Mexican Lupe Aquino last Oct 2.

**Bout**

Rosi's next defence will be April 8 against Don Curry of the United States, who outpointed Lupe Aquino in a bout on the undercard. Matchmaker Bob Arum said the bout with Curry would be in Italy or Las Vegas.

Thomas, trying to regain the world title he had lost to Aquino in Bordeaux, France, last July, started the fight on the attack but his every move was anticipated by Rosi, who landed several jabs and precise hooks.

The 26-year-old Thomas managed to carry his best punch, the right, in the fifth and sixth rounds, but caused little damage to the world champion.

"Now, I am ready to fight Curry or any other opponent," a jubilant Rosi said after the fight. "I trained hard to improve the power of my punches and

Rosi began the seventh round aggressively, forced Thomas into a corner and hammered his face with a wild combination of hooks.

Thomas fell heavily across the ropes and remained unconscious for a brief time after referee John O'Connell completed the compulsory count.

"I was in perfect form and his rights were not a problem," Thomas' manager, John Steward, said. "Rosi was far better than expected. He was fast and powerful. He can do extremely well against Curry. It's a fight open to any outcome."

Rosi improved his profes-

sional record to 43-2. Thomas suffered the third defeat in an eight-year pro career also including 29 wins, 21 by knockout.

Rosi, who received \$120,000 for his voluntary defense against Thomas, said he hoped to get a richer purse for the fight against Curry.

Curry, a former world welterweight champion who will be making a second try at the title of the upper category, won a unanimous 12-round decision over Aquino despite a lackluster performance.

Curry nicknamed "The Cobra," piled up a wide advantage by landing fast left hooks and precise combinations to the body and to the head of the 25-year-old Mexican.

After the fight, Curry said he had not fought his best "because it was the fight of my career, possibly my last world chance," and I only had to think of a victory, not of a great showing."

Aquino suffered the fourth defeat of his career.

"I was breathless, unable to carry any serious punch," he said. "I am sorry for missing a world chance. It will be difficult to get another one."

Curry, of the United States, lost his welterweight title in September, 1986, to Britain's Lloyd Honeyghan.



Rosi (right) lands a blow at Thomas. (Reuter wirephoto)



Rosi (left) rejoices after knocking out Thomas. (Reuter wirephoto)

Americans to benefit from re-grading of tournaments

LONDON, Jan 4. (AP): American golfers are expected to feel the benefit of a re-grading of the tournaments that decide the Sony rankings, the sponsors announced today.

Since the rankings were launched almost two years ago they have gained international recognition. But an advisory committee set up to monitor the system has suggested several refinements, including the up-grading of six tournaments on the US circuit.

These changes, which come into effect immediately, have been approved by the championship committee of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club at St. Andrews, who sanction the rankings and use them to decide some exemptions for such tournaments as the British Open championship.

**Below**

The six up-graded US tournaments, which include the American Tournament Players' Championship, the Memorial Tournament and the World Series, will be second-ranked and below only the world's four majors, the US Masters, the Open and PGA Championships and the British Open.

This has had the effect of slightly downgrading all other events in Britain and Europe and probably will mean more Americans appearing higher in the ranking system. At present the US has only four in the top 10 and Curtis Strange is its highest placed at number five, behind Australia's Greg Norman, Severiano Ballesteros of Spain, Bernard Langer of West Germany and Britain's Sandy Lyle, Europe's top money winner, Welshman Ian Woosnam, is number six.

A new grade six will also be introduced into the rankings to take account of more minor and regional events, Sony said. There will be an increase in the depth of field to which points will be awarded and the system of assessing the strength of a tournament's field will also slightly alter.

**SPORTS BRIEFS****Golden Shoe**

BRUSSELS, Jan 4. (UPI): KV Mechelen's goalkeeper Michel Preud'Homme was awarded the 1987 Golden Shoe award as the best Belgian player of the year today.

**Zola Budd**

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 4. (UPI): South African-born Zola Budd said today she would run for Britain if selected for the World Cross Country Championships in Auckland on March 26.

**Nigerian player**

BRUSSELS, Jan 4. (UPI): Nigerian international Christoper Adelebi, 19, has joined Belgian First Division soccer club Molencia on a six-month contract, a club official said today.

**NHL games**

NEW YORK, Jan 4. (Reuters): Results of National Hockey League (NHL) games played yesterday: (only games scheduled): Buffalo Sabres 2 Quebec Nordiques 2 Detroit Red Wings 5 Winnipeg Jets 4 Calgary Flames 5 Chicago Black Hawks 3

**1994 bid**

CARDIFF, Wales, Jan 4. (UPI): Wales, which is bidding to host the 1994 Commonwealth Games, received a boost today when the local television station presented a cheque for £25,000 (\$45,000) to the committee putting together the 1994 bid. The venue of the Games will be announced during the Olympic Games in Seoul later this year.

**Seoul Games**

FRANKFURT, West Germany, Jan 4. (Reuters): The President of the Soviet National Olympic Committee said today that his country did not intend to boycott the Seoul Olympic Games which start in September.

**Bridge**

RESULTS of the SAS Bridge Club cause played on Sunday:  
1. Nabil Akef & Lilo Martwirat  
2. Jamila Akef & Camelia George  
3. Margaret Maynard & Daphne El Saad

Results of the Sheraton Bridge played on Wednesday:  
1. Adly Tabb & Sherin Bassony  
2. Ignace Meouchi & Marcel Zanari

3. Mr & Mrs Farah

4. Aly Imran & Ehsan Abbasi  
5. Franklin & Richard  
6. Dr. Deamoud 50 points

7. S. Aurora & Bhatti

**Annual Subscriptions**

Individuals: No. 45.  
Companies and Official  
Departments: No. 50.  
(All other countries add  
overseas subscriptions)

**Blokhin set to sign for Austrian club**

STEYR, Austria, Jan 4. (Reuters): Oleg Blokhin, former European Footballer of the Year and World Cup striker, is set to join Austrian Second Division Vorwaerts Steyr after completing his last season with Soviet club Dynamo Kiev.

Steyr chairman Alois Radlspack told Reuters today: "We shall be meeting with Soviet officials in Munich on Wednesday and hope to finalise the contract, which would run for one-and-a-half years."

He said that under the contract, Blokhin would play for Steyr until the end of the season and, if the team qualified for the First Division, for a further year.

**Cherkasov wins**

PORT WASHINGTON, New York Jan 4. (AP): Top-seeded Andre Cherkasov of the Soviet Union beat countryman Vladimir Petrushenko 4-6, 6-1, 6-0 yesterday to win the boys' 18 title at the Port Washington International Junior Tennis Championships.

**Wassberg triumphs at last**

SOLLEFTEA, Sweden, Jan 4. (UPI): Thomas Wassberg of Sweden, who had threatened to drop out of the Olympics unless he found his form before the New Year, scored a late but longed-for victory in a national race yesterday.

Blokhin, who was with Dynamo Kiev for 25 years, would be the second Soviet footballer to play in Austria.



Blokhin: quits

**Queensland score easy win over NSW**

SYDNEY, Jan 4. (Reuters): Queensland continued their march towards the Sheffield Shield cricket final with a 52-run victory over New South Wales in Brisbane today.

Queensland now have 24 points from five matches and lead Western Australia who moved into a clear second place with 18 after a three-wicket win over South Australian in Adelaide.

New South Wales succumbed with more dignity than appeared likely when they resumed at 145 for five and still needed 208 runs for an improbable win.

For a while, they had Queensland faltering when Mark Taylor and Mark Waugh produced a century partnership in 112 minutes. Having come together late on Sunday when the score was 133 for five, the pair added 105 before spinner Trevor Hohns and wicketkeeper Peter Anderson combined to snare Taylor for 71 with the last ball before lunch.

**Honours**

Waugh offered the only other resistance, but when he fell for 88 with the score on 271 for seven, New South Wales' chance disintegrated.

Carl Rackemann took the bowling honours for Queensland with 4-54 while Ian Botham finished with 3-61.

In Adelaide, Western Australia beat South Australia by three wickets. South Australia were all out for 328 in their second innings leaving Western Australia needing 249 to win. They reached the target by hitting 250 for seven.

**Johan Cruyff**

AMSTERDAM, Jan 4. (Reuters): Johan Cruyff has offered his resignation as manager of Ajax Amsterdam, the Dutch news agency ANP said today.

The report said he had told the players of his decision but had not said whether he had accepted an offer from another club.

**Violence threatens future of world's most popular sport**

ZURICH, Jan 4. (Reuters): Soccer violence, the phenomenon once described as the "English disease," has spread through body of European and world football at such a rate it has become a threat to the future of the world's most popular sport.

On and off the pitch, acts of hooliganism have continued to escalate since the first serious outbreaks of trouble in the late 1970s.

Destruction and injury through hooliganism has particularly plagued Europe, where the 1990 World Cup finals will be held for an hour after a firework was thrown on the pitch, hurting Cypriot goalkeeper Andre Charou.

The match ended in an 8-0 win for the Dutch, but the European Football Union (UEFA) subsequently awarded victory to Cyprus. Then, after a Dutch appeal, it was replayed in an empty stadium and the Dutch won 4-0 to qualify for the finals.

Rotterdam, where the original match was played, was banned from staging UEFA matches until July 1990.

In Italy missile-throwing has become a regular threat.

When champions Napoli visited Pisa in September, Alessandro Renica was hit by a coin thrown from the crowd and could not continue. Italian soccer authorities reversed the result and awarded the match to Napoli.

When Juventus played Cesena in Turin in November, Cesena's Dario Sanguinetti was almost hit by a firecracker. Juventus won on the day, but Cesena was subsequently awarded victory.

In a Polish Third Division match in October, a fan used an airgun to injure two players and a spectator. In November all three officials in charge of another Third Division match in Przysiersk were seriously beaten by fans after the home team, Sparta, lost.

Hooliganism has also grown in the Soviet Union. After a match between Dynamo Kiev and Spartak Moscow in September, gangs of Kiev fans attacked the Muscovites with bottles, bricks and clubs at the railway station.

The following month nationalist hostility surfaced when fans of the Lithuanian team Zalgiris clashed with Cska Moscow supporters in Vilnius. There were